



The famous opalescent clock keeps time at the center of the main concourse in Grand Central Terminal in New York. The country's most famous train station and one of its finest examples of Beaux Arts architecture in America turns 100 today, February 1.

(AP Photo/Kathy Willens)

NYC's landmark Grand Central Terminal turns 100

NEW YORK (AP) — New York City's Grand Central Terminal will celebrate its 100th birthday with a brass band, a "Sex and the City" star and an appearance by Caroline Kennedy, whose mother Jacqueline

Kennedy Onassis spearheaded efforts to save the landmark from demolition in the 1970s. The cathedral-like terminal with its vaulted ceiling depicting the constellations is one of America's most popular tourist

destinations and one of New York City's most recognizable buildings. Countless movies and TV shows have been filmed there including "North by Northwest," "The Cotton Club" and "Gossip Girl."

But Grand Central was in danger of being demolished until Onassis and other preservationists spurred New York City to designate it a landmark. The fight to save Grand Central went all the way to the U.S. Su-

preme Court, which ruled in 1978 that cities have the right to protect historic buildings, even if that limits the owner's ability to develop or sell the property.

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Hagel spars with McCain on Iraq at hearing

Elisabeth Bumiller

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WASHINGTON — Chuck Hagel, President Barack Obama's nominee to be secretary of defense, came under sharp and sometimes angry questioning Thursday on a wide range of issues from fellow Republicans at his Senate confirmation hearing, including from his old friend, Sen. John McCain, R-Ariz., who is still smoldering about their break over the Iraq War.

dumb." Hagel, who in 2006 said the "Jewish lobby" intimidates Congress, could not. From Hagel's home state, Sen. Deb Fischer told Hagel that he held "extreme views" that were "far to the left of this administration." Sen. Ted Cruz, R-Texas, surprised the hearing with excerpts on a giant video screen from an interview Hagel gave to Al-Jazeera in 2009. Although it was difficult to hear the short clips he provided, Cruz asserted

to Iraq and Afghanistan. Hagel dodged a direct answer as McCain asked him repeatedly if history would judge whether Hagel was right or wrong in opposing the surge in U.S. armed forces when he was in the Senate. The escalation, along with other major factors, is credited in helping to quell the violence in Iraq at the time. When Hagel said he wanted to explain, McCain bore in. "Are you going to answer the question, Sena-

the question, is this going to be worth the sacrifice?" He said 1,200 American men and women lost their lives in the surge. "I'm not certain it was required," Hagel said. "Now, it doesn't mean I was right." Despite the theatrics, it was unclear how the committee would vote on Hagel's nomination. He needs a majority of the 26-member panel, which includes 14 Democrats, almost all of whom are likely to support

US seeks how to engage Chinese on cyberattacks

LOLITA C. BALDOR

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Obama administration is considering more assertive action against Beijing to combat a persistent cyber-espionage campaign it believes Chinese hackers are waging against U.S. companies and government agencies.

As The New York Times and Wall Street Journal reported Thursday that their computer systems had been infiltrated by China-based hackers, cybersecurity experts said the U.S. government is eyeing more pointed diplomatic and trade measures.

Two former U.S. officials said the administration is preparing a new National Intelligence Estimate that, when complete, is expected to detail the cyberthreat, particularly from China, as a growing economic problem. One official said it also will cite more directly a role by the Chinese government in such espionage.

The official said the NIE, an assessment prepared by the National Intelligence Council, will underscore the administration's concerns about the threat, and will put greater weight on plans for more aggressive action against the Chinese government. The official was not authorized to discuss the classified report and spoke only on condition of anonymity.

Although the administration hasn't yet decided what steps it may take, actions could include threats to cancel certain visas or put major purchases of Chinese goods through national security reviews.

"The U.S. government has started to look seriously at more assertive measures and begun to engage the Chinese on senior levels," said James Lewis, a cybersecurity expert at the Center for Strategic and International Studies. "They realize that this is a major problem in the bilateral relationship that threatens to destabilize U.S. relations with China." □



A panoramic photo of members of the media at former U.S. Sen. Chuck Hagel's confirmation hearing before the Senate Armed Services Committee on Capitol Hill, in Washington, Jan. 31, 2013.

(Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

Hagel, 66, a former senator from Nebraska and a decorated Vietnam veteran who would be the first former enlisted soldier to be secretary of defense, often seemed tentative in his responses to the barrage from fellow Republicans on the Senate Armed Services Committee, who showed him little deference and frequently cut him off. One of the most hostile questioners was Sen. Lindsey Graham of South Carolina, who told Hagel to "give me an example of where we've been intimidated by the Israel-Jewish lobby to do something

that they showed Hagel agreeing with a caller who suggested that Israel had committed war crimes. "Do you think the nation of Israel has committed war crimes?" Cruz demanded. "No, I do not, Senator," Hagel replied. But his exchange with McCain was the most notable, given that the two former Vietnam veterans were close friends when they served in the Senate until Hagel's views on the Iraq War caused a split. In 2008, Hagel did not endorse McCain for president and traveled with Obama, then a senator from Illinois,

for Hagel — the question is whether you were right or wrong?" McCain said. "I'm not going to give you a yes or no answer," Hagel replied. McCain did not let up. "I think history has already made a judgment about the surge sir, and you're on the wrong side of it," McCain said, then seemed to threaten that he would not vote for Hagel if he did not answer the question. It took the next questioner, Sen. Bill Nelson, D-Fla., to draw out Hagel out on the subject. "I did question the surge," Hagel said. "I always asked

his nomination. And there remained a possibility that perhaps one or two Republicans would join them. If Hagel advances out of the committee, he would have an easier time when the entire Senate votes on his confirmation. The onslaught by Republicans, however, began even before Hagel made his opening statement. The ranking Republican on the committee, Sen. James M. Inhofe of Oklahoma, told Hagel that he would not vote for him because of his position of "appeasing" America's adversaries. □

NYC's landmark Grand Central Terminal turns 100

Continued from front

No longer a long-distance train terminal, Grand Central serves commuters going to and from New York's northern suburbs via Metro-North Railroad. There is also a New York City subway station that connects to the terminal and dozens of shops and restaurants, including the venerable Oyster Bar. Several of Grand Central's

businesses will offer special 1913 deals for Friday's birthday celebration, including a 75-cent cocktail at Michael Jordan's The Steak House N.Y.C. and a 19-cent slice of cheesecake at the Oyster Bar. Friday's party takes place exactly 100 years after the keys to Grand Central were first given to the stationmaster on Feb. 1, 1913. The celebration will start with the West Point Brass

and Percussion Band performing the world premiere of "Grand Central Centennial Fanfare." Speakers will include Kennedy, who is the honorary chairwoman of the Grand Central Centennial Committee, as well as actress Cynthia Nixon, former Mets baseball star Keith Hernandez, former poet laureate Billy Collins and Mayor Michael Bloomberg. There will be a replica of

the terminal made of Lego bricks as well as an exhibit called "Grand by Design: A Centennial Celebration of Grand Central Terminal," showcasing the history and impact of Grand Central. The centennial celebration will continue with events throughout 2013 including a performance piece by artist Nick Cave March 25-31 and a parade of historic trains May 10-12. □

Extension of debt limit clears congress hurdle

J. WEISMAN
ANNIE LOWREY

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WASHINGTON — The Senate on Thursday sent President Barack Obama legislation suspending the government's statutory borrowing limit until May, accepting a House Republican demand that Senate Democrats produce a budget plan this spring in exchange for a debt limit reprieve that included no spending cuts.

The 64-34 vote ended for now a showdown that had threatened the full faith and credit of the U.S. government. The Treasury Department has been shuffling federal accounts for a month to make sure it could pay interest to its creditors even after the government officially breached its borrowing limit. By mid-February, the Obama administration warned, the Treasury would have exhausted such "extraordinary measures" and would have been forced to default for the first time.

The deal "sets an important precedent," said Sen. Harry Reid of Nevada, the majority leader, "that the full faith and credit of the United States will no longer be used as a pawn to extract painful cuts to Medicare, Social Security or other initiatives that benefit the middle class."

A clean debt ceiling increase that allows the United States to meet its existing obligations should be the standard."

The legislation, written by House Republican leaders, passed the House last week 285-144, with most Republicans voting for it. In the Senate, most Republicans — and Sen. Joe Manchin III, D-W.Va. — voted no. Reid's hope for an end to such showdowns on the debt ceiling may prove to be too optimistic. The next budget fight will come March 1, when across-the-board military and domestic spending cuts totaling \$1 trillion over 10 years would begin to go into force. House Republi-



Sen. Chuck Schumer (D-N.Y.), center, on Capitol Hill in Washington, Jan. 31, 2013. The Senate on Thursday sent President Barack Obama legislation suspending the government's statutory borrowing limit until May.

(Christopher Gregory/The New York Times)

cans say they would entertain proposals to shift those cuts to other programs but will not back down on the spending reduction.

On March 27, the current stopgap law financing the government will expire, raising the specter of a government shutdown.

Then on May 18, the debt ceiling issue will come back into force unless a broader deficit reduction deal can be reached before then. □

At Press Time:

Tense negotiations continue with Alabama captor

By PHILLIP RAWLS
Associated Press

MIDLAND CITY, Ala. (AP)

— Speaking into a 4-inch-wide ventilation pipe, hostage negotiators tried Thursday to talk a man into releasing a kindergartener and ending a standoff in an underground bunker that stretched into its third day.

The man identified by multiple neighbors and witnesses as 65-year-old retired truck driver Jimmy Lee Dykes was accused of pulling the boy from a school bus on Tuesday and killing the driver. The pair was holed up in a small room on his property that authorities compared to tornado shelters common in the area.

James Arrington, police chief of the neighboring town of Pinckard, said the shelter was about 4 feet underground, with about

6-by-8 feet of floor space and a PVC pipe that negotiators were speaking through.

There were signs that the standoff could continue

for some time: A state legislator said the shelter has electricity, food and TV. The police chief said the captor has been sleeping and told negotiators that

he has spent long periods in the shelter before.

"He will have to give up sooner or later because (authorities) are not leaving," Arrington said. "It's pretty small, but he's been known to stay in there eight days." Midland City Mayor Virgil Skipper said he has been briefed by law enforcement and visited with the boy's parents.

"He's crying for his parents," he said. "They are holding up good. They are praying and asking all of us to pray with them."

The normally quiet red clay road was teeming Thursday with more than a dozen police cars and trucks, a fire truck, a helicopter, officers from multiple agencies, media and at least one ambulance near Midland City, population 2,300.

Dykes was known around the neighborhood as a

menacing figure who neighbors said once beat a dog to death with a lead pipe, threatened to shoot children for setting foot on his property and patrolled his yard at night with a flashlight and a firearm.

The chief confirmed that Dykes held anti-government views, as described by multiple neighbors: "He's against the government — starting with Obama on down."

"He doesn't like law enforcement or the government telling him what to do," he said. "He's just a loner."

Authorities say the gunman boarded a stopped school bus Tuesday afternoon and demanded two boys between 6 and 8 years old. When the driver tried to block his way, the gunman shot him several times and took a 5-year-old boy off the bus. □



Law enforcement personnel man a check point in Midland City, Ala., below the home where the school bus shooting suspect is barricaded in a bunker with a young child as hostage.

(AP Photo/Jay Hare)

Bipartisan Senate group focuses on border security

ERICA WERNER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — A bipartisan group of senators working to write immigration legislation is focusing on how to define when the U.S. border is secure, one of several contentious issues that could cause the whole deal to collapse, a key Senate negotiator said Thursday.

Sen. Chuck Schumer, a leading Democrat, pointed to "serious challenges ahead" as the lawmakers delve into the nitty gritty of border security, how to define a path to citizenship for illegal immigrants, and other issues such as a guest worker program — something business wants and organized labor has concerns about.

"Make no mistake about it, these are difficult and thorny issues, and all three of us have seen any one of these issues bring previous

immigration bills down," Schumer said at a news conference with Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid

curity before a path to citizenship can begin. President Barack Obama does not endorse such a linkage



Senate Majority Harry Reid, D-Nev., with Senate Majority Whip Sen. Dick Durbin, D-Ill., answer question regarding immigration reform on Capitol Hill in Washington, Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013.
(AP Photo/Pablo Martinez Monsivais)

and Sen. Dick Durbin, both Democrats.

Schumer, Durbin and the other six senators who proposed an immigration bill blueprint this week want assurances on border se-

in his own immigration proposal, and the White House argues that the border is more secure now than it ever has been. But Republicans in the Senate group, including John McCain of

border state Arizona and Marco Rubio of Florida, say they cannot support an immigration bill that doesn't make a pathway to citizenship conditional on a secure border.

But just how to define a secure border remains to be determined, and the issue is front and center as the Senate group meets to draft legislative language. Schumer and Durbin said they envision specific metrics that would need to be met. They didn't provide examples, but such measures could include crime statistics, arrests at the border, and the number of border agents deployed along the border.

"If we made the path to citizenship contingent on a safe and secure border, and just used that phrase, then it's in the eye of the beholder. It will always be subjective," Durbin said. "The idea behind a met-

ric is to have something measurable, measurable, and we believe we can achieve that."

Rubio, mentioned as a 2016 presidential candidate, has said that "operational security" of the 2,000-mile (3,200-kilometer) border with Mexico should be achieved before illegal immigrants can begin to achieve citizenship. He's defined that as law enforcement having a very high probability of being able to prevent somebody from illegally crossing the border or apprehending them if they do. A Government Accountability Office report in 2011 said that of the nine southwestern border sectors, only the Yuma, Arizona, sector had reported full operational security. Rubio also wants a better system of tracking people here on visas and whether they have overstayed their visas. □



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Police: Teen shot by fellow student at Ga. school

KATE BRUMBACK
Associated Press

ATLANTA (AP) — A student opened fire at his middle school Thursday afternoon, wounding a 14-year-old in the neck before an armed officer working at the school was able to get the gun away, police said. Multiple shots were fired in the courtyard of Price Middle School just south of downtown around 1:50 p.m. and the one boy was hit, Atlanta Police Chief George Turner said. In the aftermath, a teacher received minor cuts, he said. The wounded boy was taken "alert, conscious and breathing" to Grady Memorial Hospital, said police spokesman Carlos Campos. He was expected to be released Thursday night. Police swarmed the school of about 400 students after reports of the shooting while a crowd of anxious parents gathered in the streets, awaiting word on their children. Students were kept at the locked-down school for more than two hours before being dismissed. Investigators believe the shooting was not random and that something oc-

curred between the two students that may have led to it. Schools Superintendent Erroll Davis said the school does have metal detectors. "The obvious question is how did this get past a metal detector?" Davis asked about the gun.



A woman comforts a child after a shooting at Price Middle school in Atlanta on Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013. A 14-year-old boy was wounded outside the school Thursday afternoon and a fellow student was in custody as a suspect, authorities said. No other students were hurt.

(AP Photo/John Bazemore)

"That's something we do not know yet." The armed resource officer who took the gun away was off-duty and at the school, but police didn't

shooting, several school buses loaded with children pulled away from the school and stopped in front of a church about a half-block away. Parents tried

boarding the buses. Police who initially tried to stop the parents, relented and screamed, "Let them off!" about the students.

James Bolton was at work when his sister called saying a teen had been shot at his son's school and was in the crowd as parents began swarming the fleet of buses.

"Move, I see my son, I see mine!" he said, running up to embrace James Bolton Jr. "As long as I got this one back I'm OK," he said, holding his son's head against his chest as parents nearby frantically searched for their children.

Bolton Jr. said he was in class when the intercom sounded and a school official announced the building was under immediate

lockdown.

"They told us we had to be quiet," Bolton told The Associated Press. "They said something went on in the courtyard." Bolton said he was unaware that anyone had been shot until a reporter asked him about it. Shakita Walker, whose daughter is an eighth-grader at the school, said she received a text from her that said, "Ma somebody's shooting and somebody got shot." Walker, who works at another school, said she jumped in her car and was thinking "just hurry up and get there."

Walker said her daughter called to tell her that they were being kept in the gymnasium, but she said she was anxious to see her to make sure she was OK. □

Arizona gunman dead of apparent suicide

JACQUES BILLEAUD
Associated Press

PHOENIX (AP) — A man who shot and killed a call-center CEO and critically wounded a lawyer at a Phoenix office building where they were meeting to discuss a contract dispute was found dead early Thursday, ending a nearly 24-hour manhunt that had area residents on edge. A landscaper found the body of Arthur Douglas Harmon among some bushes in the Phoenix suburb of Mesa. Harmon, 70, died of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound, police said. A handgun was found near his body, and a rented Kia Optima sedan that he drove from Wednesday's shooting scene was located in a nearby parking lot. Authorities had been searching for Harmon since

Wednesday morning, when they say he drew a gun and shot two men at the end of a mediation session at a north-central Phoenix office building. Steve Singer, 48, died hours



This image shows Arthur Douglas Harmon, 70 who authorities identified as the suspect, who they said opened fire at the end of a mediation session at a Phoenix office complex Wednesday Jan. 30, 2013. (AP Photo)

later. The law firm that employs Mark Hummels, 43, said Thursday he is on life support and isn't expected to survive. A 32-year-old woman also was shot, but her injuries were not life-threatening. "We believe the two men were the targets," Phoenix police Sgt. Tommy Thompson said. "It was not a random shooting." Harmon also fired at someone who tried to follow him to get his license plate number, authorities said. Singer was the CEO of Fusion Contact Centers LLC, which had hired Harmon to refurbish office cubicles at two call centers in California. According to court documents, Harmon was scheduled to go to a law office in the building where the shooting took place for a settlement conference in a lawsuit he filed against Fusion in April. □

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Evangelical churches refine message on gay issues

TRAVIS LOLLER

Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tennessee (AP)

— The pressure to change the way homosexuality is addressed in U.S. evangelical churches is increasing as mainstream support for gay and lesbian issues increases. The support is especially strong among young adults, and researchers say they don't expect this group to become more conservative on the issue as they get older.

In a 2011 survey by the non-profit Public Religion Research Institute, 62 percent of adults between 18 and 29 years old said they supported gay marriage, and 71 percent supported civil unions. Among adults 65 and older, those numbers were 31 percent in favor of marriage and 51 percent



Rev. Robert Jeffress, the Baptist pastor of the 11,000-member Dallas church hasn't stopped preaching that homosexual sex is sinful, but he no longer singles it out for special condemnation. Now, Jeffress says, he usually talks about homosexuality within "a bigger context of God's plan for sex between one man and one woman in a lifetime relationship called marriage."

(AP Photo/Luke Edmonson)

for civil unions.

Asked about the perception that "religious groups are alienating young people by being too judgmental about gay and lesbian issues," 69 percent of the younger group agreed with the statement. The Rev. Robert Jeffress

has responded by changing the way he talks about homosexuality from the pulpit. The Baptist pastor of a 11,000-member Dallas church hasn't stopped preaching that homosexual sex is sinful, but he no longer singles it out for special condemnation. Now, Jeffress says, he usually talks about homosexuality within "a bigger context of God's plan for sex between one man and one woman in a lifetime relationship called marriage."

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"It would be the height of hypocrisy to condemn homosexuality and not adultery or unbiblical divorce," he said, explaining that the Bible allows divorce only in cases of adultery or desertion. He also includes premarital sex on that list.

Another recent poll by the Pew Forum on Religion and Public Life found that nearly 20 percent of adult Americans now describe themselves as unaffiliated with any specific religion, and the problem for evangelical churches is apparent. "Evangelicals have been sobered by studies that show people are dropping out of church in droves," said Bill Leonard, dean of Wake Forest University's Divinity School. That has affected how they relate to marginalized people, including gays and lesbians." As it becomes safer for gays and lesbians to come out of the closet, it becomes increasingly more likely that evangelicals know gays and lesbians personally, research-

ers say.

"Over the last five to 10 years, evangelicals have been faced with the issue even more poignantly as their sons and daughters come out of the closet," Leonard said. "... It has become more difficult to dismiss 'those people.'"

Justin Lee, founder of the Gay Christian Network, is one of those children.

Like most evangelicals, Lee grew up believing that the Bible was to be taken pretty much at face value, but in wrestling with the realization that he was gay, he has found a more nuanced way to read Scripture. Now he works to foster understanding of gays and lesbians within evangelical institutions.

"I do hear from church leaders and pastors, who say, 'I already know where I stand, but how can I be more loving and gracious to the gay community without compromising my convictions?'" Lee said.

Jeffress, who has gay and lesbian members in his church, tries to be compassionate and understanding. He said he is open to the possibility that sexual orientation has a genetic basis that cannot be cured or prayed away.

"I think we were too quick to dismiss the possibility of a genetic predisposition," Jeffress said.

But that hasn't altered his belief the Bible teaches that acting on homosexual desire is sinful, and he feels it is his responsibility to talk about it with his congregation. □



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Decimated Georgia town a symbol of storm's power



Tommy Stouffer, right, looks at his overturned car with his son Jonathan, 11, after a tornado picked it up from the parking lot where he was working across the street and dumped it in the middle of the road, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013, in Adairsville, Ga. A fierce storm system that roared across Georgia has left at least one person dead after it demolished buildings and flipped vehicles on Interstate 75 northwest of Atlanta.

(AP Photo/David Goldman)

JOHNNY CLARK
Associated Press

ADAIRSVILLE, Ga. (AP) —

For Darleen Evans, it was sheer terror as the manufacturing plant where she worked collapsed around her and her colleagues. She and two other women rushed into a bathroom stall, she holding one under each arm as she prayed, a tornado roaring overhead. She tearfully recalled their survival as nothing short of a miracle: "If it wasn't for God, this company and these people wouldn't be here." On two occasions, tornadoes have ripped through the Daiki Corp. steel manufacturing plant that employs more than 90 people in this small community. Both times, everyone inside escaped serious injury. The sprawling facility won't be reopening anytime soon after the storm that hit Wednesday, however: Most of it has been reduced to a pile of rubble, little more than mangled beams and twisted steel. The first time, in 2002, a tornado tossed the roof into the parking lot. Ventilation fans, ductwork and wiring were torn away. Several media outlets aired

dramatic video Wednesday showing a massive funnel cloud roaring through Adairsville, a town of about 4,600 some 60 miles northwest of Atlanta.

Three people died because of the massive storm system that marched across the U.S. — tornadoes killed one each in Tennessee and Georgia, while floodwaters killed a third in Maryland. While most came away with their lives, many lost their homes and were left with little else a day later.

Tens of thousands were without power at the storm's peak as a cold front sent what had been unseasonably high temperatures plummeting to near-freezing depths. Dangerous wind blanketed the nation's midsection, with subzero temperatures and wind chills recorded in the Dakotas. In Detroit, icy roads were blamed for a massive chain reaction wreck involving about 30 vehicles on Interstate 75. At least three people died there, and another pileup involving more than 40 vehicles near Indianapolis closed a stretch of Interstate 70 in both directions.

Others closely watched rivers swollen by torrential rains, and officials opened flood gates to ease pressure on dams in Maryland. Hundreds were evacuated to higher ground. In Anne Arundel County, one person apparently drowned in a flooded camp where homeless people live in tents, said police Lt. T.J. Smith.

Ernest Moran said he lives at the site with about 15 other people. He awak-

ened Thursday morning to find "a swamp," he said, and escaped with only his dog and a knapsack.

Near the nation's capital, at least one motorist had to be rescued because of flash floods. In New England, powerful winds were the main problem as gusts topping 60 mph in some areas caused widespread power outages.

The tornadoes Tuesday and Wednesday broke the nation's longest break

between tornado fatalities since detailed records began being kept in 1950, according to the Storm Prediction Center and National Climatic Data Center. The last one was June 24 in Florida. That was 220 days ago as of Tuesday.

Winter tornadoes are not unheard of: In January 2012, at least two tornadoes ripped across Alabama, killing two people and wiping out scores of homes and businesses. □

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Dutch student distributes aid to displaced Syrians

BAB AL-SALAMEH BORDER CROSSING, Syria (AP)

— While backpacking in Europe and Asia, Wijbe Abma was moved by stories of human tragedy in Syria, torn by a civil war that has left people queuing for hours in the cold for basic goods like bread and fuel.

He is only one person, yet Abma decided he needed to do what he could to help the millions of Syrians displaced by nearly two years of fighting between government forces and rebels trying to topple President Bashar Assad's regime. More than 60,000 people have been killed. The 21-year-old Dutch student has raised more than \$17,000 to buy warm blankets

for the refugees, delivering the aid through local activists and rebel groups. Earlier this month, he traveled to help distribute them to Syrian families living in temporary camps where the temperature drops below freezing at night.

"They needed blankets and many other things in this camp," Abma said, standing in a make-shift camp that is home to thousands of displaced people near the Bab al-Salameh crossing on Syria's border with Turkey. "So I thought maybe I can buy like a hundred blankets to bring to this camp."

Most international aid allocated for Syria's crisis has gone to the 700,000 people who have sought refuge in

neighboring countries.

An emergency U.N. appeal to raise \$1.5 billion for Syria

the brink.

"We are sending a message to Syrians: You are



Dutch student Wijbe Abma, right, talking to a man in Syria. The 21-year-old has raised more than \$17,000 to buy warm blankets for the refugees, delivering the aid through local activists and rebel groups. Earlier this month, he traveled to help distribute them to Syrian families living in temporary camps where the temperature drops below freezing at night.

(AP Photo via AP video)

exceeded its goal at an international aid conference in Kuwait on Wednesday, though Jordan's king said the refugees his country have taken in have pushed his nation's resources to

not alone," U.N. Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon said, describing Syria as caught in a "death spiral" and calling the conditions for many civilians a "living hell."

International aid groups have found it difficult to deliver aid inside Syria. In government-controlled areas, it must work through agencies linked to the Assad regime and rebel-held areas often lack the means to help distribute aid. At the same time, working anywhere in Syria, subjects aid workers to risk. "Last time I was in Aleppo, it was pretty continuous shelling," Abma said, referring to Syria's largest city that has been torn apart by months of fighting. "One time (bullets were) very close, with the whistling sound and everything."

Abma, who is doing a bachelor's degree in human geography focusing on international aid and development, bought the first 100 blankets with \$800 he earned working as a postman in The Netherlands and tutoring English in South Korea. Now he collects donations through a website, which raised him enough money to buy 500 more blankets to take to Aleppo. □

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UK's Cameron makes unexpected visit to Libya

C. VINOGRAD

Associated Press

LONDON (AP) — British Prime Minister David Cameron made an unexpected visit to the Libyan capital of Tripoli on Thursday and announced that U.K. police officers will travel to the North African nation to investigate the Lockerbie bombing.

He also held bilateral talks to explore what support and expertise Britain can offer to Libya to strengthen its security and defeat terrorism.

Cameron told a press conference in Tripoli he was "delighted" that police

would be able to visit Libya and "look into the issues" around the 1988 bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over the Scottish town. The attack killed 270 people, many of them American. The death last spring of Abdel Baset al-Megrahi — a former Libyan intelligence agent and the only man convicted over the Lockerbie bombing — renewed pleas from victims' relatives for further investigation of the bombing. After the 2011 fall of dictator Moammar Gadhafi, Britain asked Libya's new rulers to help fully investigate. Cameron also said Britain



Algerian President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, right, listens to Britain's Prime Minister David Cameron as he delivers a speech in Algiers. Cameron made an unexpected visit to the Libyan capital of Tripoli on Thursday and announced that U.K. police officers will travel to the North African nation to investigate the Lockerbie bombing.

(AP Photo/Anis Belghoul)

Armenia presidential hopeful shot, injured

AVET DEMOURIAN

Associated Press

YEREVAN, Armenia (AP) —

A longshot candidate for the Armenian presidency was shot in the chest by an unidentified gunman late Thursday, officials said. He was hospitalized in stable condition as police searched for the shooter, while the speaker of parliament suggested the election could be delayed.

Paruir Airikian was shot outside his house in the Armenian capital, Yerevan, just before midnight. A neighbor who heard gunshots and cries for help called the police.

Airikian is one of eight candidates in the Feb. 18 presidential vote, which incumbent Serge Sarkisian is expected to easily win. Opinion surveys show Airikian getting a small percentage of the vote.

The Yerevan Clinical Hospital's chief doctor, Ara Minasian, confirmed that the 63-year-old Airikian was

being treated for one gunshot wound and remained in stable condition.

Armenian parliament speaker Ovik Abramian, who visited Airikian at the hospital, said the attack on the candidate could be aimed at thwarting the election. He said the vote could be postponed, but the nation's election chief refused to comment on the possibility.

The Armenian presidency is an important position with broad executive powers, and the campaign for the job has been marked by much tension. Airikian, a Soviet-era dissident, briefly joined a hunger strike by another candidate over procedural issues related to the vote.

This landlocked, overwhelmingly Christian nation of 3 million has faced severe economic challenges caused by the closing of its borders with Turkey and Azerbaijan in the wake of a territorial conflict. □

was prepared to provide training and advice to Libya amid growing concerns over security in the region, pledging to help Libya's police and army.

The prime minister's visit to Tripoli — which came shortly after a stop in Algeria, where he struck a security partnership — also was just days after the U.K. Foreign Office warned of a potential threat against the British

embassy in Tripoli.

Just before that, Britain joined other governments in urging its citizens in Benghazi, Libya's second-largest city, to evacuate in response to what was described as an imminent threat to Westerners.

The Foreign Office on Thursday would not comment on the status of those threats but said it was "taking appropriate mea-

sures."

But Libyan Prime Minister Ali Zidan described the calls for British and other European nationals to leave Benghazi as "sort of a precautionary measure," telling reporters at a joint press conference with Cameron that "the situation is not worth worrying over."

He accused "anti-revolutionary" forces for being behind all the talk about Benghazi's deteriorating security situation.

"The security situation is fine, recovering and improving," Zidan said, praising Cameron for visiting Libya and calling him a "responsible and a courageous man who cares about his country's interests."

Earlier Thursday, locals greeted Cameron as he toured Tripoli's famous Martyrs' Square amid tight security. Cameron also visited a police training center on the outskirts of Tripoli, telling police recruits it was "very good to be back." He last visited Libya in September 2011, just after the fall of Gadhafi. □

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Israel may feel need to strike Syria again

**J. FEDERMAN
ZEINA KARAM
Associated Press**

BEIRUT (AP) — An Israeli air attack staged in Syria this week may be a sign of things to come.

Israeli military officials appear to have concluded that the risks of attacking Syria are worth taking when compared to the dangers of allowing sophisticated weapons to reach Hezbollah guerrillas in neighboring Lebanon.

With Syrian President Bashar Assad's grip on power weakening, Israeli officials fear he could soon lose control over his substantial arsenal of chemical and advanced weapons, which could slip into the hands of Hezbollah or other hostile groups. These concerns, combined with Hezbollah's own domestic problems, mean further military action could be likely. Tzachi Hanegbi, an incoming lawmaker in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu's Likud Party and a former chairman of parliament's influential foreign affairs and defense committee, signaled Thursday that Israel could be compelled to act on its own. While Israel's preference is for Western powers to gain control over Syria's arms stockpile, he said there are no signs of that happening.

"Israel finds itself, like it has many times in the past, facing a dilemma that only

it knows how to respond to. And it could well be that we will reach a stage where we will have to make decisions," Hanegbi told Israel's Army Radio Thursday.

a convoy carrying anti-aircraft weapons bound for Hezbollah, the powerful Lebanese militant group allied with Syria and Iran. The Syrian military has de-

gression." Iran, which supplies arms to Syria, Hezbollah and the Hamas militant group in Gaza, said the air-strike would have significant implications for Israel. Syrian

news website that it was up to the relevant authorities to choose the time and place.

For now, Israeli officials seem to be playing down the threats.

"Israel took a big gamble out of the belief that Iran and Hezbollah won't retaliate. The question is, 'Are they right or not?'" said Moshe Maoz, a professor emeritus at Hebrew University who specializes in Syria. Officials believe that Assad's position in Syria is so precarious that he cannot risk opening a new front with Israel. With an estimated 60,000 Syrians killed in the civil war, Israeli officials also think it's too late for Assad to rally his bitterly divided nation behind him.

"Syria is in such a bad state right now that an Israeli retaliation to a Syrian action would be harsh and could topple the regime. Therefore Syria is not responding," Maoz said.

Israel is far more worried about the threat of sophisticated weapons reaching Hezbollah. In a monthlong 2006 war, Hezbollah fired some 4,000 rockets and missiles into Israel before the conflict ended in a stalemate.

Israeli officials believe the guerrilla group has restocked its arsenal with tens of thousands of missiles, some capable of striking deep inside the Jewish state. □



An Israeli Iron Dome missile is launched near the city of Be'er Sheva, southern Israel. An Israeli air attack reportedly staged in Syria this week may be a sign of things to come. Israeli military officials appear to have concluded that the risks in attacking Syria are worth taking when compared to the dangers of allowing sophisticated weapons to reach Hezbollah guerrillas in neighboring Lebanon.

(AP Photo/Ahikam Seri)

Hanegbi, like other Israeli officials, would not confirm Israeli involvement in the airstrike.

In this week's incident, Israeli warplanes conducted a rare airstrike inside Syria, according to U.S. officials who said the target was

nied the existence of any weapons shipment and said a military research facility outside Damascus was hit.

On Thursday, Syria threatened to retaliate, while Hezbollah condemned the attack as "barbaric ag-

ally Russia said it appeared to be an unprovoked attack on a sovereign nation. Syria's ambassador to Lebanon, Ali Abdul-Karim Ali, said Damascus "has the option and the capacity to surprise in retaliation." He told Hezbollah's al-Ahd

Two more Pakistani polio workers killed in bombing

**DECLAN WALSH
ISMAIL KHAN
© 2013 New York Times**

ISLAMABAD — A roadside bomb killed two polio workers in northwestern Pakistan on Thursday, in the third such attack this week on workers struggling to immunize children against the crippling disease.

The explosion struck as the two workers, with a U.N.-backed campaign, were traveling by motorcycle through the Parachinar district, near the border with Afghanistan.

It was the first such attack on health workers in that

area, said a senior local official speaking by phone on the condition of anonymity, offering further evidence that a Taliban-led campaign of violence and intimidation against polio workers is spreading across northwestern Pakistan.

Despite an internationally supported campaign to halt polio in Pakistan, infection rates have soared in the past year, coinciding with a wave of militant attacks against the poorly protected workers at the heart of the effort. Some militants accuse polio workers of using vaccination as

a cover to spy on behalf of the United States — a claim that has been fueled by the revelation that the CIA used a vaccination drive as cover for the effort to find Osama bin Laden in Abbottabad in early 2011.

The violence has badly affected vaccination efforts, which involve tens of thousands of health workers who repeatedly administer cheap oral vaccines to children under 5.

Nine polio workers were killed in a string of attacks across the country in December. On Tuesday, suspected militants fatally shot

a police officer who had been escorting female polio workers in the Swabi District, 50 miles east of Peshawar, the capital of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa province.

The shooting prompted officials to suspend the campaign in Swabi, but they pressed ahead in other parts of Khyber-Pakhtunkhwa and the adjoining tribal belt. Another polio worker was wounded by a man with an ax in an unrelated episode on Tuesday.

It was unclear, however, whether the latest killings were directly related to the polio campaign. A local

official said it was unclear whether the explosion targeted the two workers for their links to the polio campaign or for their religious affiliation.

Violence against polio workers is not confined to the turbulent northwest. U.N. workers in Karachi, the port city on the Arabian Sea, have also suffered attacks that have set back efforts to wipe the disease from the city, Pakistan's most populous.

Pakistan is one of three countries, along with Nigeria and Afghanistan, where polio remains endemic. □

Rivals in Egypt hold rare meeting, call for dialogue

KAREEM FAHIM
NICHOLAS KULISH
ALAN COWELL
© 2013 New York Times

CAIRO – In a rare gathering organized by young Egyptian revolutionaries, the country's rival political groups held extraordinary talks Thursday after days of political chaos and urged continued dialogue to counter widespread violence.

But a statement after the gathering of prominent secular opponents of President Mohammed Morsi and his Islamist allies made no direct reference to a call Wednesday by some of Morsi's critics for the creation of a government of national unity.

The talks were held under the chairmanship of the country's leading Muslim cleric, Grand Imam Ahmed al-Tayyeb of Al Azhar mosque and university, one of the high-

est seats of learning in the Muslim world.

A national dialogue, the cleric said, "in which all the

any problems or disagreements."

He urged the participants to "commit to peace-

ful competition for power and the peaceful rotation of power" and to prohibit "all types of violence and coercion to achieve goals, demands and policies."

Television footage from the encounter showed some of the country's main political rivals sitting down across a table.

Facing dire warnings from the military about the country's growing chaos, Egyptian opposition leaders from both secular-leaning and Islamist groups banded together for the first time Wednesday to urge Morsi to form a national unity government to halt the violence that has led to dozens of deaths over the past week.

Those who attended the talks Thursday included

Mohamed ElBaradei, a former U.N. diplomat and prominent figure in the secular opposition, and Amr Moussa, a former Egyptian foreign minister in the Mubarak era and a onetime head of the Arab League. For the first time since the formation of the secular opposition bloc, they sat with leading Islamists including Saad al-Katatni, the head of Morsi's Freedom and Justice Party, the political wing of the Muslim Brotherhood.

After the meeting, ElBaradei told reporters: "We come out of this meeting with a type of optimism. Each of us will do what we can, with good will, to build trust again among the factions of the Egyptian nation," Reuters reported. □



Youths warm up by a makeshift fire in Cairo, Jan. 31, 2013. Prominent secular opponents of President Mohammed Morsi gathered with the Egyptian leader's Islamist allies on Thursday after days of political chaos threatening the transition to democracy. (Tara Todras-Whitehill/The New York Times)

components of the Egyptian society participate without any exclusion" was "the only means to resolve

Iran says it will speed up nuclear production

GEORGE JAHN
Associated Press

VIENNA (AP) — In a defiant move ahead of nuclear talks, Iran has announced plans to vastly increase its pace of uranium enrichment, which can make both reactor fuel and the fissile core of warheads. Eager to avoid scuttling those negotiations, world powers are keeping their response low-key.

Iran told the International Atomic Energy Agency of its intentions last week, and the IAEA informed member nations in an internal note seen by The Associated Press on Thursday.

The brief note quoted Iran as saying new-generation IR2m "centrifuge machines ...will be used" to populate a new "unit" — a technical term for an assembly that can consist of as many as 3,132 centrifuges.

It gave no timeframe. A senior diplomat familiar with the issue said work had not started, adding that it would take weeks, if not months, to have the new

machines running once technicians started putting them in.

He demanded anonymity because he was not authorized to divulge confidential information.

Mark Fitzpatrick, a non-proliferation expert and former senior official at the U.S. State Department, described the planned upgrade as a potential "game-changer."

"If thousands of the more efficient machines are introduced, the timeline for being able to produce a weapon's worth of fissile material will significantly shorten," said Fitzpatrick, of the International Institute for Strategic Studies.

"This won't change the several months it would take to make actual weapons out of the fissile material or the two years or more that it would take to be able to mount a nuclear warhead on a missile, so there is no need to start beating the war drums," he said.

"But it will certainly escalate concerns." □



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Explosion at Pemex headquarters, workers injured

MEXICO CITY (AP) — An explosion at the main headquarters of Mexico's state-owned oil company in the capital Thursday left at least several workers injured, blew out windows and damaged the building, the company said. Local media reported that at least one person had died and that about 40 were injured. Petroleos Mexicanos, or Pemex, said workers have been evacuated from the building. A reporter at the scene saw rescue workers trying to free several workers trapped. Television im-

ages showed people being evacuated on office chairs, and gurneys. Most of them showed injuries likely caused by falling debris. Pemex said in a Tweet that several workers were injured in the blast but no one answered at its offices. In an earlier Tweet, the company said it had evacuated the building because of problems with the electricity in its administrative skyscraper. Interior Department spokesman Eduardo Sanchez confirmed that an explosion in the basement



Firefighters belonging to the Tacubaya sector and workers dig for survivors after an explosion at an adjacent building to the executive tower of Mexico's state-owned oil company PEMEX, in Mexico City, Thursday Jan. 31, 2013. A large explosion occurred in the lower floors of the building and dozens have been reported injured so far. (AP Photo/Guillermo Gutierrez)

garage of the office tower also damaged the first and second floors of a building, which is located in a busy commercial and residential area. □



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Chavez ally travels to see ailing leader

CARACAS, Venezuela (AP) — The president of Venezuela's National Assembly traveled to Cuba on Thursday to visit President Hugo Chavez, who is recovering on the island more than seven weeks after undergoing cancer surgery. The trip by National Assembly President Diosdado Cabello was announced on television by Vice President Nicolas Maduro. "He should be landing in Havana already, taking a message of ours, taking a group of subjects to keep consulting (with Chavez) on various issues relating to the country's political, social development,"

Maduro said. He said that among those matters was the development of a coalition of pro-Chavez parties. Chavez hasn't appeared or spoken publicly since before his Dec. 11 operation for an unspecified type of pelvic cancer. The government provided its latest update on Chavez's health on Saturday, saying he had overcome a severe respiratory infection and was beginning additional medical treatment. Venezuelan Information Minister Ernesto Villegas said when he gave that update that it remained unclear how soon Chavez could return

home from Cuba. He said Chavez had started "systemic medical treatment for the fundamental illness." Medical experts say that could refer to a new round of chemotherapy or other drug treatments, depending on the type of cancer Chavez has. The Venezuelan leader has undergone repeated surgeries, chemotherapy and radiation treatment since June 2011. The 58-year-old president won re-election in October, and lawmakers indefinitely put off his Jan. 10 inauguration in a decision that was condemned by opponents but upheld by the Supreme Court. □



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The concept is based on a "Make Your Own Combo". The restaurant guest can make his or hers choice based on the amount of items that they would like. For example a 3-item combo sells for \$6.50. A 4 item combo sells for \$8.50 etc. You can go as wild as you want combining different types of meats.

If we take a look at their side dishes we see many options like white rice, fries, red skin potatoes, mac and cheese, noodles, fried funchi (polenta), fried plantain and different salads.



What makes Marky Bee's such a great place to visit is because its where the locals eat.

Here you can mingle in a nice atmosphere. We do have to warn you that seating is limited and most business from Marky Bee's is take out, but you are

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will include a free tee-shirt while supplies last, a \$5 casino free play, \$10 match play, 4 cocktails of choice and an all-you-care-to-eat snack buffet. Each fan will receive a raffle ticket upon entry and winners will be drawn at the end of each quarter and during half-time. The Casino & Bar partnership bundled entertainment, prizes and great food for you, starting Sunday, February 3rd, at 5 p.m., so don't miss it. Buster's Garage is also announcing the sixth annual Buster's Super Bowl Square Pools consisting of \$5.00 pools, \$10.00 pools and a \$20.00 pool which have a total of \$2,000.00 up for grabs. The Trop Casino & Club is ready for a fun, fantastic game day. Be there! ☐

Loyal visitors honored at the Divi Aruba All Inclusive!



EAGLE BEACH - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority honored a group of Goodwill Ambassadors at the Divi Aruba All Inclusive. The honorees included Anne and Windy Hamlin, Michael and Patrick Szczepanik of Lake City, Michigan, and Joseph and Francis Harnedy of Fram-

ingham, Massachusetts. The symbolic honorary title is presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for between 10-and-20 years consecutive. The honorees are guests of Divi Aruba All Inclusive and have been enjoying the Is-

land every year. Darline S. de Cuba, representing ATA conducted the ceremony at Divi Aruba All Inclusive. Top reasons for returning provided by the honorees were they consider Aruba to be the "Happy Island", the great weather, and Friendly Aruban Hospitality. □

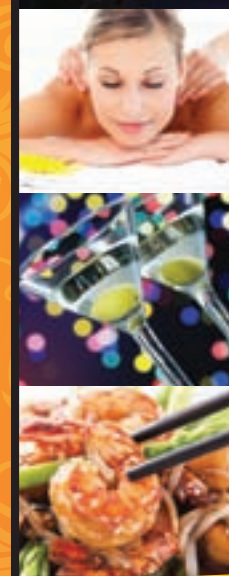


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New arrival of unique Carnaval outfits at Caribbean Queen!

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PALM BEACH, January 30—A brand new collection of carnival attributes and accessories has arrived at Caribbean Queen. The store, located in Palm Beach Plaza Mall carries a series of the world famous Venetian carnival masks. Other fun items are cowboy hats adorned with dazzling bling to protect you from the sun during the day-time parades. A unique collection of colorful cowboy boots complete your outfit this carnival season. The boots come in a bright pink, robust black, blingy silver, fresh turquoise and all carry vibrant glitters. A true must-have that will keep your feet dancing to the roadmarch all night long. Lastly, a variety of unique tees and tanks calling to the Caribbean queen in every woman mark yet another carnival collection item.

This fun carnival collection of accessories are available at Caribbean Queen, located on the ground floor of the Palm Beach Plaza Mall. The unique and colorful carnival boots can also be obtained at a brand new sister store, Caribbean Clothing Co. This store carries a complete collection of men's and women's resort wear as well as fun gifts and accessories. Caribbean Clothing Co. is located on the Mainstreet, Caya Beti-



co Croes #32.

All customers who purchase at Caribbean Queen or Caribbean Clothing Co. and mention this article will receive a raffle ticket and have a chance to win their next trip to Aruba. This includes round trip airfare for two, a week's stay at Playa Linda Beach Resort and a \$200 shopping spree credit. Also, a percentage of every purchase at Caribbean Queen and Caribbean Clothing Co. is donated to one of Aruba's charities who help make a difference in the local community.

Caribbean Queen and Ca-

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NBA Capsules



New York Knicks' Carmelo Anthony dunks the ball during the first half of NBA basketball game against the Orlando Magic, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013, at Madison Square Garden in New York. The Knicks won 113-97.

Associated Press

Anthony sets team record with 30th 20-point game

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Carmelo Anthony scored 20 points to set a team-record with his 30th straight 20-point game, leading the New York Knicks to a 113-97 victory over the reeling Orlando Magic on Wednesday night.

Anthony's scoring tended to overshadow outstanding games by New York big men Tyson Chandler and Amare Stoudemire, who combined for 35 points on 17-for-18 shooting from the field against the Magic. Orlando lost its seventh straight and 18th in 20 games.

Chandler finished with 21 points on 10 of 11 shooting, along with seven rebounds and a season-high five assists. Stoudemire hit all seven of his shots and scored 14 points as the Knicks beats Orlando for the third time this season.

Continued on page 18

LIP SERVICE



Mickelson's bid for 59 falls agonizingly short

Phil Mickelson smiles after finishing te first round of the Waste Management Phoenix Open golf tournament Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013, in Scottsdale, Ariz. Mickelson shot a course record 11-under par 60 for the round.

Associated Press
Page 19

NBA Roundup

Continued from page 17

JJ Redick scored 29 points and fellow guard Jameer Nelson added 21 for Orlando.

HAWKS 93, RAPTORS 92

ATLANTA (AP) — Al Horford scored 22 points, including a go-ahead dunk with 21 seconds remaining, and Atlanta beat short-handed Toronto.

Longtime Raptors guard Jose Calderon and forward Ed Davis gave farewell hugs to their teammates about an hour before the game as word leaked of a trade that will send small forward Rudy Gay from Memphis to Toronto.

DeMar DeRozan led Toronto with 23 points. John Lucas added a season-high 19 points, Alan Anderson had 15 points and Aaron Gray had eight points and 11 rebounds.

Josh Smith added 20 points and 11 rebounds and Kyle

Korver, who made five 3-pointers, had 17. Horford had 10 rebounds.

HEAT 105, NETS 85

NEW YORK (AP) — LeBron James had 24 points, nine rebounds and seven assists, and Miami blew out Brooklyn in the second half its 13th win in a row over the Nets.

Dwyane Wade added 21 points and Chris Bosh had 16 for the Heat, who outscored the Nets 56-36 in the second half after it was tied at halftime.

In their first game since falling in double overtime Sunday at Boston, the Heat made sure this would be a much easier night. James, Wade and Bosh were all on the bench long before the end, and Miami shot 52 percent from the field and made 11 of 19 3-pointers.

Brook Lopez, chosen to his first All-Star team Wednesday, scored 21 points for the Nets, who had their eight-game home winning streak snapped.



Brooklyn Nets' Deron Williams (8) collides with Miami Heat forward Udonis Haslem as he goes up for a layup in the second half of an NBA basketball game Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013 in New York. Miami won 105-85.

Associated Press

76ERS 92, WIZARDS 84

PHILADELPHIA (AP) — Jrue Holiday scored 21 points, Nick Young had 18 and struggling Philadelphia got a rare win.

Thaddeus Young and Lavoy Allen each added 14 points to help the Sixers win for just the fourth time in 13 games and seventh in 24. Emeka Okafor had 15 points and 17 rebounds, Nene scored 16 and Martell Webster got 15 for Washington.

The Wizards dropped to 6-5 since John Wall returned from a knee injury. They were 5-28 without him and entered with the second-worst record in the NBA. Wall had nine points on 3-for-12 shooting.

The Sixers are three games into an eight-game homestand and need to use the home-court advantage to make up some ground in the playoff race. They entered three games behind Boston for the final spot in the East. □

Rudy Gay heads to Toronto in Grizzlies' makeover

JON KRAWCZYNSKI
AP Basketball Writer

Rudy Gay is on his way to Toronto in the latest and most dramatic move in the Memphis Grizzlies' money-motivated makeover.

The Grizzlies agreed to trade their star swingman to the Raptors on Wednesday, parting with the leading scorer on a team that has aspirations of making a run in the powerful Western Conference.

The Raptors gave up point guard Jose Calderon and forward Ed Davis in the deal that also included Grizzlies backup center Hamed Haddadi, and Memphis then shipped Calderon to Detroit for Austin Daye and Tayshaun Prince.

"Players like this don't come along that often in terms of their availability," Raptors GM Bryan Colangelo said of Gay. "This was a very unique circumstance. We feel like we took advantage of it."

Memphis general manager Chris Wallace didn't mention finances in a statement issued Wednesday night, but there is no doubt they played a big role in



Memphis Grizzlies forward Rudy Gay, left, looks to the basket as Chicago Bulls guard Jimmy Butler guards during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Chicago on Saturday, Jan. 19, 2013.

Associated Press

the decision.

"We are excited to add three players who bring with them a tremendous amount of value to our team and have achieved incredible success on the pro, college and Olympic levels," Wallace said in a statement Wednesday night. "In these players, we welcome NBA Champion and Olympic gold medalist Tayshaun Prince, as well as up-and-coming athletic forwards Ed Davis, who won a college title at North Carolina, and Austin Daye."

The moves surprised many around the league, including Calderon and Prince.

"It's been my home for eight years," Calderon said in Atlanta, shortly before leaving the arena. "I've done everything possible for this team. It's tough. The fans have been with me since Day 1. It's tough." Prince and Daye have both spent their entire careers with Detroit, and Prince was the last link to the proud championship team of 2003-04.

"Trading a player like Tayshaun Prince, who has

meant so much to our organization and contributed to our championship success, is never easy," Pistons president Joe Dumars said in a statement. "We want to thank Tayshaun for his professionalism and contributions over the last 10 years. We also appreciate everything that Austin Daye has done for our team both on and off the court over the past three-plus years."

Gay, averaging 17.2 points and 5.9 rebounds, signed a five-year, \$82 million maximum contract in July 2010 with Memphis. The 6-foot-8 small forward is due \$16.5 million this season with \$37 million more over the next two years. That's a big number for new owner Robert Pera, who took over the franchise last November and has quickly started addressing the team's salary situation.

Just over a week ago, the Grizzlies sent valuable reserve Marreese Speights and two other players to Cleveland in a move that cleared \$6.4 million in salary and avoided a \$4 million luxury tax hit this season. Team officials said

that move put the Grizzlies in position not to have to make a move this season.

The Raptors do run the risk of upsetting the chemistry on a tight-knit group, even if there were some questions of how Gay's scoring fit in with the ball-dominant frontcourt of Gasol and Randolph. But there may be more deals like this one coming in the new NBA economy.

The collective bargaining agreement negotiated after last year's lockout makes the penalties for exceeding the salary cap far more punitive, and the system begins in earnest next season. Playing in a smaller market, the Grizzlies don't have the extra revenue from lavish television contracts like teams in Los Angeles or New York, which makes it that much more difficult to go over the cap. But even teams such as the Lakers and Bulls will likely have to be more responsible with their spending under the new deal, where repeat offenders are taxed at rates that multiply with each consecutive year they go over the cap. □

2 NFL seasons since agreement, still no HGH tests

HOWARD FENDRICH
AP Pro Football Writer
NEW ORLEANS (AP) — When the Super Bowl ends on Sunday, the NFL will have completed two seasons without a single HGH test, even though the league and players' union paved the way for it in the 10-year collective bargaining agreement in 2011. Since then, the sides have haggled over various elements, primarily the union's insistence that it needs more information about the validity of a test that is used by Olympic sports and Major League Baseball. HGH is a banned performance-enhancing drug that is hard to detect and has been linked to health problems such as diabetes, cardiac dysfunction and arthritis. Count Baltimore Ravens defensive end Arthur Jones among those NFL players

who want the blood testing resolved.

"I hope guys wouldn't be cheating. That's why you do all this extra work and extra training. Unfortunately, there are probably a few guys, a handful maybe, that are on it. It's unfortunate. It takes away from the sport," Jones said.

"It would be fair to do blood testing," Jones added. "Hopefully they figure it out."

At least two members of Congress want to make it happen sooner, rather than later.

House oversight and government reform committee chairman Darrell Issa and Elijah Cummings wrote to NFL Players Association head DeMaurice Smith this week to chastise the union for standing in the way of HGH testing and to warn that they might ask players to testify on Capitol Hill.

In December, their committee held a hearing at which medical experts testified that the HGH test is reliable and that the union's request for a new study is unnecessary. Neither the league nor union was invited to participate in that hearing; at the time, Issa and Cummings said they expected additional hearings.

"We have cooperated and been helpful to the committee on all of their requests," NFLPA spokesman George Atallah said. "If this is something they feel strongly about, we will be happy to help them facilitate it."

"I feel like some guys are on HGH," said San Francisco 49ers offensive line-



NFL players union chief DeMaurice Smith pauses as he speaks during a news conference outside their headquarters, in this May 24, 2012 file photo taken in Washington.

Associated Press

man Anthony Davis, who would rather not speak to Congress. "I personally don't care if there is testing. It's something they

have to live with, knowing they cheated, and if they get (outplayed) while they're on it, it's a hit on their pride." □

2 NFL seasons since agreement, still no HGH tests



NFL players union chief DeMaurice Smith pauses as he speaks during a news conference outside their headquarters, in this May 24, 2012 file photo taken in Washington.

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Phil Mickelson shoots 60 at Phoenix Open

JOHN NICHOLSON

AP Sports Writer

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (AP)

— Phil Mickelson missed out on a 59 by a fraction of an inch Thursday in the first round of the Phoenix Open.

Mickelson had a chance to become the sixth player in PGA Tour history to break 60 with a 25-foot birdie attempt on his last hole, the par-4 ninth at TPC Scottsdale. The putt looked good all the way, and Mickelson pointed his putter at the cup as he prepared to celebrate.

Right at the end, though, the ball caught the right edge of the cup, curled 180 degrees to the other side of the hole and stayed out.

"Six feet to go, it was in the center," Mickelson said. "Three feet to go, it was in the center.

A foot to go, it was in the center, and even as it's approaching the hole, I couldn't envision which side of the hole it could possibly miss on, and it ended up somehow just dying off at the end, catching the lip.

At that speed, to lip out as



Phil Mickelson tees off on the 12th hole during the first round of the Waste Management Phoenix Open golf tournament Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013, in Scottsdale, Ariz. Associated Press

much as it did is very rare. "I'm excited to shoot 60, but to see that last putt lip out the way it did and not go in, it's crushing because you don't get that chance very often to shoot 59."

His caddie, Jim Mackay, fell to his knees and stayed there several seconds.

"He could not have hit a better putt," Mackay said.

Playing partners Jason

Dufner and Rickie Fowler thought it was going in, too.

Mickelson settled for an 11-under 60, matching the tournament record he already shared with Grant Waite and Mark Calcavecchia.

"Well, 60 is awesome," Mickelson said. "Last time I shot 60 here in '05, I birdied like the last three or

four holes just to do that, and I was ecstatic, and I'm ecstatic to shoot 60. But there's a big difference between 60 and 59. Not that big between 60 and 61, there really isn't. But there's a big barrier, a Berlin Wall barrier, between 59 and 60."

In perfect conditions on the course softened by weekend rain, Mickelson

birdied the first four holes and reached 8 under with another four-birdie run capped by a 20-footer on the par-4 first — his 10th hole of the round. He added birdies on par-5 third and par-3 fourth.

The former Arizona State star struggled in his first two events this year and also caused a sensation by saying new federal and state tax rates kept him from being part of the San Diego Padres' ownership group and might cause him to move away from California. He tied for 51st last week at Torrey Pines in his hometown event after opening the season with a tie for 37th in La Quinta.

Mickelson had a four-stroke lead over Ryan Palmer, Brandt Snedeker, Padraig Harrington and Ted Potter Jr. with half the players still on the course.

Fowler and Dufner shot 68. Vijay Singh withdrew before the round, a day after saying he used deer-antler spray and was "absolutely shocked" that it may contain a banned substance. The 49-year-old Fijian cited a back injury. He faces possible sanctions from the tour. □

Winter X Games snowmobiler Caleb Moore dies after crash

PAT GRAHAM

Associated Press

DENVER (AP)

— Caleb Moore was a Texas kid drawn to the snow, rehearsing complicated tricks on a snowmobile into a foam pit back home until they became second nature and ready for the mountains.

With his younger brother following along and constantly pushing him, Moore became a rising talent in action sports.

The innovative freestyle snowmobile rider, who was hurt in a crash at the Winter X Games in Colorado, died Thursday morning. He was 25. Moore had been undergoing care at a hospital in Grand Junction since the Jan. 24

crash. Family spokeswoman Chelsea Lawson confirmed his death, the first in the 18-year history of the X Games.

"He lived his life to the fullest. He was an inspiration," Lawson said.

A former all-terrain vehicle racer, Moore switched over to snowmobiles as a teenager and quickly rose to the top of the sport. He won four Winter X Games medals, including a bronze last season when his younger brother, Colten, captured gold.

Caleb Moore was attempting a backflip in the freestyle event in Aspen last week when the skis on his 450-pound (200-kilogram) snowmobile caught the lip of the landing area,

sending him flying over the handlebars. Moore landed face first into the snow with his snowmobile rolling over him.

Moore stayed down for quite some time, before walking off with help and going to a hospital to treat a concussion. Moore developed bleeding around his heart and was flown to a hospital for surgery. The family later said that Moore, of Krum, Texas, also had a complication involving his brain.

Colten Moore was injured in a separate crash that same night. He suffered a separated pelvis in the spill. The family said in a statement they were grateful for all the prayers and support they have received from



In this photo taken Jan. 24, 2013, Caleb Moore, center, is helped off the snow following his crash during the ESPN Winter X Games snowmobile freestyle competition in Aspen, Colo.

Associated Press

people around the world. X Games officials expressed their condolences and said Moore, a four-time X Games medalist, would be remembered "for his natural passion for life and his deep love for his family and friends."

B.C. Vaught, Caleb Moore's agent for almost a decade, said he first saw

Moore when he was racing an ATV in Minnesota and signed him up to star in some action sports movies.

Later, Moore wanted to make the switch from ATVs to snowmobiles and Vaught helped him. A natural talent, it only took Moore two weeks to master a difficult backflip. □

NHL Capsules

Matt Cullen, Wild hand Blackhawks 1st loss, 3-2

Associated Press

ST. PAUL, Minnesota (AP) —

Matt Cullen scored 90 seconds into the game and again in a shootout to lift the Minnesota Wild to a 3-2 victory over Chicago on Wednesday, handing the Blackhawks their first loss in seven games this season. Cullen's snap shot in the third round slipped between Corey Crawford's legs, and Patrick Sharp then hit the crossbar for Chicago. The Blackhawks and San Jose were the only teams to start 6-0 this year. The Wild improved to 4-1 at home.

Goals by Andrew Shaw and Jonathan Toews early in the first period prompted the Wild to pull goalie Josh Harding for Niklas Backstrom.

Cal Clutterbuck also scored for the Wild, and Backstrom stopped all 28 shots he saw.

Crawford, off to a sharp start in his third season as Chicago's primary goalie, made 23 saves as the Blackhawks started a season-long six-game road trip. They've played five straight one-goal games.

CANUCKS 3, AVALANCHE 0

VANCOUVER, British Columbia (AP) — Roberto Luongo made 24 saves for his first win of the season, helping the Canucks to the victory.

Luongo, who has been on the trading block since Cory Schneider replaced him as Vancouver's No. 1 goaltender, was rarely tested but still made some big saves in his 61st career shutout.

With the Canucks leading 2-0 in the third, Luongo stopped Matt Duchene on a short-handed breakaway that prompted calls of "Luuu, Luuu" from Canucks fans. He blocked a John Mitchell shot from the slot later in the period.

Jason Garrison and Max Lapierre each scored for the first time this season, and Zack Kassian picked up his fifth goal in seven games.

OILERS 2, COYOTES 1, OT



Minnesota Wild center Matt Cullen celebrates after scoring on Chicago Blackhawks goalie Corey Crawford during the first period of an NHL hockey game Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2013, in St. Paul, Minn.

Associated Press

GLENDAL, Arizona (AP) — Nail Yakupov scored a power-play goal at 3:52 of overtime and Edmonton fought back after giving up a goal late in regulation. The Oilers appeared to be on their way to helping Devan Dubnyk to his fifth career shutout, but put their goalie in a bind when Sam Gagner was called for a penalty and the Coyotes pulled goalie Chad Johnson.

Nick Johnson took advantage, whipping a shot past Dubnyk's glove side with

19 seconds left in regulation after teammate Radim Vrbata failed on a backhand.

Yakupov ended it in overtime, punching in a rebound after a shot by Ryan Whitney caromed off teammate Taylor Hall.

Dubnyk stopped 27 shots and Lennart Petrell scored his first goal since Feb. 27, helping the Oilers end a five-game losing streak to Phoenix.

Chad Johnson had 19 saves after notching his first NHL shutout two days ear-

lier.

SENATORS 5, CANADIENS 1 OTTAWA (AP) — Daniel Alfredsson scored his first goal of the season to lead Ottawa to the victory.

Jim O'Brien, Mika Zibanejad, Chris Phillips and Chris Neil also scored for the Senators, and Craig Anderson had 31 saves in his 300th career game.

Tomas Plekanec scored for Montreal, which had won four straight. Peter Budaj made 22 stops in his season debut.

Down 4-1 in the third, the Canadiens made a desperate push to get back in the game, but Anderson made numerous point-blank saves, including two on Brandon Prust. □

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Myths of weight loss are plentiful, researcher says

GINA KOLATA

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If schools reinstated physical education classes, a lot of fat children would lose weight. And they might never have gotten fat in the first place if their mothers had just breast-fed them when they were babies. But be warned: obese people should definitely steer clear of crash diets. And they can lose more than 50 pounds in five years simply by walking a mile a day.

Those are among the myths and unproven assumptions about obesity and weight loss that have been repeated so often and with such conviction that even scientists like David B. Allison, who directs the Nutrition Obesity Research Center at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, have fallen for some of them.

Now, he is trying to set the record straight. In an article published online Wednesday in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, he and his colleagues lay out seven myths and six unsubstantiated presumptions about obesity. They also list nine facts that, unfortunately, promise little in the way of quick fixes for the weight-obsessed. Example:

"Trying to go on a diet or recommending that someone go on a diet does not generally work well in the long term."

Obesity experts applauded this plain-spoken effort to dispell widespread confusion about obesity. The field, they say, has become

"I feel like cheering," said Madelyn Fernstrom, founding director of the University of Pittsburgh Weight Management Center. When it comes to obesity beliefs, she said, "We are spinning out of control."

Steven N. Blair, an exercise and obesity researcher at

of course, weighing oneself daily helped control weight. He checked for the conclusive studies he knew must exist. They did not.

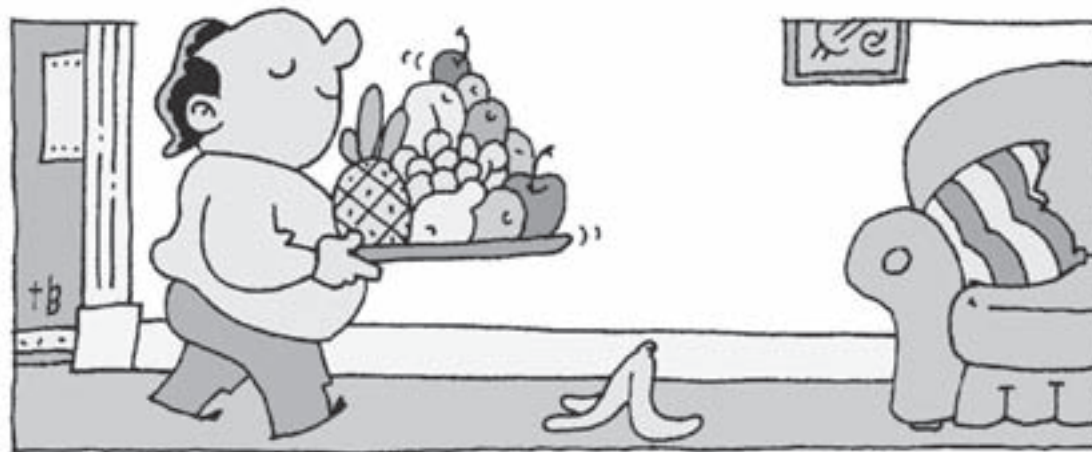
"If a patient says, 'Do you think it is reasonable for me to lose 25 percent of my body weight,' the honest answer is, 'No. Not without

something." He replies that scientists have an ethical duty to make clear what is established and what is speculation. And while it is fine to recommend things like bike paths or weighing yourself daily, scientists must make sure they preface their advice with the caveat that these things seem sensible but have not been proven.

Among the best established methods is weight-loss surgery, which, of course, is not right for most people. But surgeons have done careful studies to show that on average people lose substantial amounts of weight and their health improves, Allison said. For dieters, the best results occur with structured programs, like ones that supply complete meals or meal replacements.

In the meantime, Allison said, it is incumbent upon scientists to change their ways. "We need to do rigorous studies," he said. "We need to stop doing association studies after an association has clearly been demonstrated."

"I never said we have to wait for perfect knowledge," Allison said. But, as John Lennon said, "Just give me some truth."



In an article published online in *The New England Journal of Medicine*, a group of scientists lay out seven myths and six unsubstantiated presumptions about obesity.

(Tom Bloom/The New York Times)

something of a quagmire. "In my view," said Dr. Jeffrey M. Friedman, a Rockefeller University obesity researcher, "there is more misinformation pretending to be fact in this field than in any other I can think of." Others agreed, saying it was about time someone tried to set the record straight.

the University of South Carolina said his own students believe many of the myths. "I like to challenge my students. Can you show me the data? Too often that doesn't come into it."

Allison sought to establish what is known to be unequivocally true about obesity and weight loss.

His first thought was that,

surgery," Allison said. But, he said, "If a patient says, 'My goal is to lose 25 percent of my body weight,' I would say, 'Go for it.'"

Yet all this negativism bothers people, Allison conceded. When he talks about his findings to scientists, they often say, "OK, you've convinced us. But what can we do? We've got to do

Study:

Antibiotics can save malnourished children

DENISE GRADY

© 2013 New York Times

Two studies of malnourished children offer the first new scientific findings in a decade about the causes and treatment of severe malnutrition, which afflicts more than 20 million children around the world and contributes to the deaths of more than 1 million a year. Merely giving children a cheap antibiotic along with the usual nutritional treatment could save tens of thousands of lives a year, researchers found.

The studies, in Malawi, led by scientists from Washington University in St. Louis, reveal that severe malnutrition often involves more than a lack of food.

The antibiotic study found

that a week of the medicine raised survival and recovery rates whengiven at the start of a longer course of a "therapeutic food" made from peanut butter fortified with milk powder, oil, sugar and micronutrients. Malnourished children are prone to infections, and the drugs — amoxicillin or cefdinir — were so helpful that researchers said medical practice should include an antibiotic in routine treatment of severe malnutrition.

"This is ready for prime time," said Dr. Indi Trehan, the first author of the study, which was published Wednesday in *The New England Journal of Medicine*. The senior author is Dr. Mark J. Manary, an expert

on malnutrition and one of the pioneers in using the fortified peanut butter.

Because of the results, the World Health Organization expects to recommend broader use of antibiotics in new guidelines on treating malnutrition that are to be issued next month, said Zita Weise Prinzo, a technical officer in the organization's nutrition department. The second study shows, for the first time, that an imbalance in bacterial populations in the gut may contribute to a severe form of malnutrition called kwashiorkor.

And it found that the fortified peanut butter could help restore the proper balance. But the senior author of the study, Dr. Jeffrey I.

Gordon, said that for the improvement to last, it may be necessary to continue the feeding for longer than the few months that is now customary. Eventually, he said, it may also be possible to help children with kwashiorkor by giving them the bacteria they lack, but such treatments have not been developed. The study was published Wednesday in the journal *Science*.

A researcher not involved in the study, Dr. David Relman, of Stanford University, who wrote a commentary in *Science*, called the findings remarkable, and said they provided hope that an improved understanding of the gut microbiome could lead to better treatments for malnutrition. □

THE SKINNY ON WEIGHT LOSS

A rigorous new assessment of the science of obesity lays out myths, misperceptions and what is known.

MYTHS

Small things make a big difference. Walking a mile a day can lead to a loss of more than 50 pounds in five years.

Set a realistic goal to lose a modest amount. People who are too ambitious will get frustrated and give up.

You have to be mentally ready to diet or you will never succeed.

Slow and steady is the way to lose. If you lose weight too fast you will lose less in the long run.

IDEAS NOT YET PROVEN TRUE OR FALSE

Diet and exercise habits in childhood set the stage for the rest of life. □

Apple blocks Java on Macs due to vulnerabilities

NEW YORK (AP) — Some Mac users were taken by surprise Thursday as their computers stopped running programs written using the Java programming language after Apple blocked Java due to security problems.

Java allows programmers to write a wide variety of Internet applications and other software programs and run them on most computers, including Apple Inc.'s Mac. However, earlier this month the U.S. Department of Homeland Security recommended disabling Java in Web browsers to avoid potential hacking attacks. Oracle Corp., which owns Java, has issued updates that fix known vulnerabilities, but the DHS expects that there are more flaws in Java's coding.



This April 23, 2007 file photo shows the Java logo at Sun Microsystems' offices in Menlo Park, Calif.
Associated Press

Mac operating system, and blocking an older version, Java 6, from running on the older version of its Mac system, called Snow Leopard. The blocks affect programs and online games that use Java in Web browsers. Oracle had no immediate comment on Apple's action.

Among those Java users inconvenienced by the unannounced block was the photo department of The Associated Press, which relies on a Java application to manage and distribute photos.

"The situation caught us by surprise and a number of our machines could not operate for a time, but we had enough capability to work around the problem in the meantime," said AP spokesman Paul Colford. "We expect the affected machines to be operating by day's end." □

CES gadget show host drops CNET as awards picker

LOS ANGELES (AP) — The industry group that hosts the annual gadget show known as International CES is dropping reviews website CNET as the picker of its "Best of CES" awards. It says CNET reviewers' objectivity was compromised by the site's corporate parent, CBS Corp. The Consumer Electronics Association also elevated

the CNET writers' initial pick for the best gadget of the show, Dish Network's Hopper with Sling, as a co-winner along with a gaming tablet called Razer Edge. CBS had annulled an earlier vote by CNET staff to award the Hopper because it is suing Dish over the product. The Hopper allows users to automatically skip commercials from prime-time

TV shows, undercutting a key source of revenue for CBS, advertising. The association says it is looking for a new partner for its awards. □

Apple sends out virtual "blacklists" to Internet-connected Macs, instructing them not to run certain programs. Apple is blocking the latest version of Java from running on the most recent versions of its



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Shell Q4 earnings rise on refining turnaround

TOBY STERLING
AP Business Writer

AMSTERDAM (AP) — Royal Dutch Shell PLC said Thursday it plans to continue investing aggressively in new projects in the coming years, as it sees a bright future for the oil and gas industry despite economic uncertainties around the world.

Overall, Europe's largest oil company was bullish as it reported an increase in fourth-quarter earnings: it said global energy demand is rising due to population increases and improving standards of living in developing countries.

Chief Executive Peter Voser said in a video message published on YouTube that at this point "we are more constrained by limits on capital (funding) than by limits on opportunities."

Voser's bullish statement came even though the company announced a below-expectations 2.6 percent increase in net profit to \$6.67 billion fourth quarter net profit.

In addition, Shell said it will hike its dividend in 2013 to \$0.45 per share, a 4.7 increase from the year before. Though some analysts have argued Shell has room to raise its dividend more, Voser claimed Shell's dividend is already "the largest in our sector."

"As our cash flow momen-

tum builds we expect to increase our dividends for shareholders in measured, affordable steps," he said. "There is more to come from Shell."

Shell's shares closed 2.7 percent lower at €26.11 in

difficulties.

Although the production profits were down, production volumes increased by 3.3 percent to 3.41 million barrels of oil or natural gas equivalents per day, as increases at major young



Peter Voser, Chief Executive Officer of Shell, speaks at the Royal Dutch Shell's full year results 2012 press conference, in London, Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013.

(AP Photo/Kirsty Wigglesworth)

Amsterdam.

A more detailed look at the figures showed that the company's key "upstream," or exploration and production, division posted earnings of \$4.38 billion, down from \$5.1 billion a year earlier.

Shell blamed the decline on higher costs and exploration expenses — Shell is spending heavily to explore for oil in frigid Arctic waters off Alaska's coast, and has run into several

projects in Qatar and Australia offset declines at existing fields.

The increase in fourth quarter profit was mostly due to a turnaround at Shell's smaller refining arm, which booked a profit of \$1.2 billion, compared with a loss of \$278 million in the same period of 2011.

Richard Hunter, head of equities at Hargreaves Lansdown Stockbrokers, said Shell's "overall profit number was shy of expect-

tations: costs are on an upward trend within the industry and the weakness of the gas price has impacted on Shell, which for the first time sold more gas than oil last year."

However, he said there were "certainly positives within the statement," notably refining margins and "upbeat management comments."

Voser said the company is on track to meet its goal of increasing operating cash flow by 30-50 percent in the four year period 2012-2015, that would imply a total cashflow of \$175-\$200 billion. Shell booked \$42.7 billion in cashflow in 2012.

He said the company's investment spending will focus on assets such as gas, deep water projects and shale. The company is planning to spend \$33 billion on capital investments this year, up from \$32.5 billion in 2012.

Shell has purchased significant U.S. shale assets, which contain natural gas that has only recently become exploitable due to new drilling techniques known as "fracking." This week Shell announced a project with pipeline company Kinder Morgan to export liquefied natural gas, or LNG, from the U.S. in order to take advantage of gas prices that are much higher internationally. □

Anheuser's bid for Modelo hit with US lawsuit

MICHAEL J. DE LA MERCED
© 2013 New York Times

The Justice Department sued Thursday to block Anheuser-Busch InBev's proposed \$20.1 billion deal to buy control of Grupo Modelo of Mexico, arguing that the merger would significantly reduce competition in the U.S. beer market.

The deal, announced last summer, would add Corona Extra to the company's formidable stable of brands, including Budweiser and Stella Artois.

But the Justice Department said in its lawsuit, filed in U.S. District Court in Washington, that allowing the merger to proceed would reduce competition in the beer industry across the country as a whole and in 26 metropolitan areas in particular. The combined company would control about 46 percent of annual U.S. sales, the government said, far outpacing Anheuser-Busch InBev's closest competitor, Miller-Coors. "If ABI fully owned and controlled Modelo, ABI would be able to increase beer prices to American consumers," William J. Baer, head of the Justice Department's antitrust division, said in a statement. "This lawsuit seeks to prevent ABI from eliminating Modelo as an important competitive force in the beer industry." The deal is the biggest to be opposed by the Justice Department since 2011, when it sued to block AT&T's proposed \$39 billion takeover of T-Mobile USA. The government's move is the first significant effort to halt widespread consolidation in the beer industry in some time. Anheuser-Busch InBev itself was the product of a blockbuster merger between two of the world's biggest brewers, and one of MillerCoors' parents is the acquisitive SABMiller. In its complaint, the Justice Department said Modelo had served as a low-price counterbalance to its larger competitors, resisting the price increases that Anheuser-Busch InBev has promoted regularly. □

Deutsche Bank posts surprising \$3 billion loss

JACK EWING
© 2013 New York Times

FRANKFURT, Germany — Deutsche Bank, Germany's largest lender, reported a surprise net loss of 2.2 billion euros (\$3 billion) for the fourth quarter of 2012 on Thursday, hurt by the diminished value of some assets as well as costs related to numerous legal proceedings. The results underline the task ahead for Jurgen Fitschen and Anshu Jain, the co-chief executives who took over the bank less than seven months ago and have declared their intention to deal more severely with the legacy of the financial crisis.

"This is the most comprehensive reconfiguration of Deutsche Bank in recent times," Fitschen and Jain said in a statement. They warned that "deliberate but sometimes uncomfortable change" lay ahead, adding that "this journey will take years not months."

Deutsche Bank avoided a government bailout during the financial crisis but has faced numerous lawsuits and official investigations, including a tax-evasion inquiry that led to a raid on company headquarters last month by German police. "Significant" charges related to legal proceedings contributed to the loss, Deutsche Bank said, without providing specifics. Analysts consider the bank to be among the most highly leveraged in Europe, and bank management has promised to reduce the number of risky activities, a process that sometimes requires it to recognize the re-

duced value of assets and book losses. Despite the loss, Deutsche Bank said fourth-quarter revenue rose 14 percent, to 7.9 billion euros, from the period a year earlier. The bank also said it had increased the amount of capital held as insurance against risk and reduced the amount of money it needed to set aside to cover possible bad loans. The bank said it had reduced total employee pay to the lowest level in years. The bank had warned in December that it would incur major charges in the quarter, without saying how much. □



Small business hiring edged up January in US

NEW YORK (AP) — Small businesses nudged up their hiring during January for a second straight month, according to a survey released Thursday.

The survey by the National Federation of Independent Business showed that the average payroll per company rose by 0.09 workers after rising by 0.03 workers in December. The lobbying group questioned 2,033 of its members for the survey. The majority of owners surveyed — 80 percent — said they made no changes in their employment levels in recent months. Eleven percent said they had added workers and 9 percent said they had cut their payrolls. NFIB Chief Economist William Dunkelberg said that the slight improvement, which brought hiring levels back to where they stood in April 2012, was a good sign but that owners remain cautious.

Although Congress agreed to lock in tax rates for 2013 at the start of the year, there are still many uncertainties for small business including the possibility of federal budget cuts. Dunkelberg noted that the government's report Wednesday that the economy shrank at an annual rate of 0.1 percent in the fourth quarter was likely to be discouraging for business owners.

Dow logs best January in nearly 2 decades

STEVE ROTHWELL
AP Business Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — The Dow logged its best start to the year in almost two decades.

Stocks rallied in the first week of the year after U.S. lawmakers reached a deal to avoid the "fiscal cliff," and then pushed higher toward record levels as optimism about the housing market recovery grew. Decent company earnings for the fourth quarter and an improving job market also helped lift markets.

The Dow Jones industrial average ended the month up 5.8 percent, its strongest January since 1994, according to S&P Capital IQ data. The Standard & Poor's 500 finished the month 5 percent higher, its best start to the year since 1997.

"There's not a whole lot of bears left here," said Jeff Hirsch, the editor of the Stock Trader's Almanac, adding that the market may struggle to gain further in February.

Stocks have also benefited as investors have put money into equities in January. By one measure, the monthly flow into stock funds was the largest in nine years.

About \$51 billion in net deposits was moved into stock funds and so-called hybrid funds, which invest in a mix of stocks and bonds, consultant Strategic Insight said Thursday. That's the most

since \$56 billion flowed in during January 2004.

On Thursday, stocks drifted lower as investors digested more earnings results and reports on the economy.

The Dow Jones industrial average fell 49 points to 13,860.58. The S&P 500 dropped 4 points to 1,498.11 and the Nasdaq composite was little changed at 3,142.13.



A trader laughs while working on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange in New York, Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013. The Dow edged higher Thursday, keeping the index on track for its best start to the year in more than two decades.

(AP Photo/Seth Wenig)

The Dow is just 304 points from its all-time high.

Among companies reporting earnings Thursday, UPS Inc., the world's biggest package-delivery company and an economic bellwether, fell 2.4 percent to \$79.29. The company's fourth quarter was hurt by weak global trade, and it forecast 2013 results below expectations.

January's rally started to

slow Wednesday after a report showed that the economy unexpectedly contracted in the fourth quarter of last year.

Stocks have gained against a backdrop of low borrowing costs and a slow, but steady, economic recovery. However, the market may struggle to build on those gains in the immediate future as traders and

makers have yet to agree on how best to reduce government spending. Those negotiations could be protracted and increase stock market volatility, said Cecilia.

More government reports Thursday also gave investors a better picture of the health of the economy.

The number of Americans seeking unemployment aid rose sharply last week but remained at a level consistent with moderate hiring. Investors will look for further clues about the strength of the jobs market Friday, when the closely followed monthly nonfarm payrolls report is published.

Among other stocks making big moves:

— Under Armour gained \$2.74, or 5.7 percent, to \$50.87, after the company said its fourth-quarter earnings jumped 10 percent and the clothing company predicted revenue growth of at least 20 percent in each of the next two years.

— ConocoPhillips fell \$3.09, or 5.1 percent, to \$58 after the oil company said earnings fell as prices for oil and natural gas declined. The Houston-based company also said 2013 production would decline.

— JDS Uniphase added \$2.11, or 17 percent, to \$14.51 after the technology company reported stronger-than-expected earnings on improved revenue and margins late Wednesday. □

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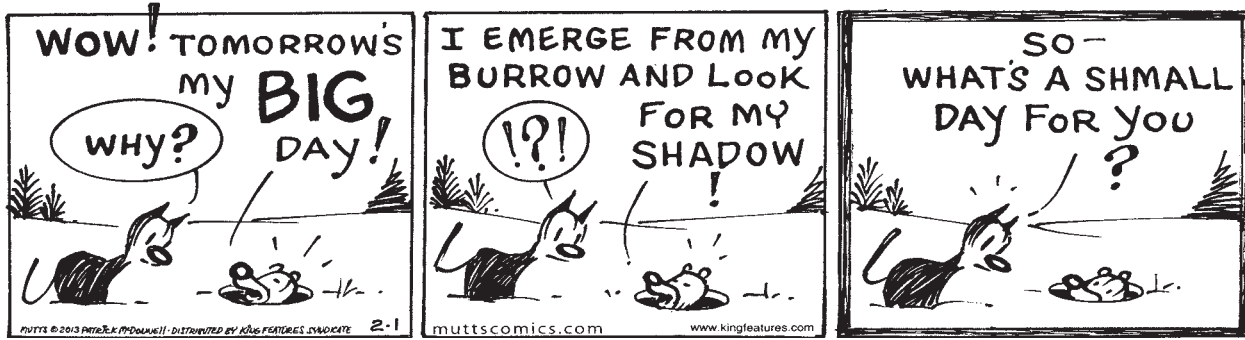
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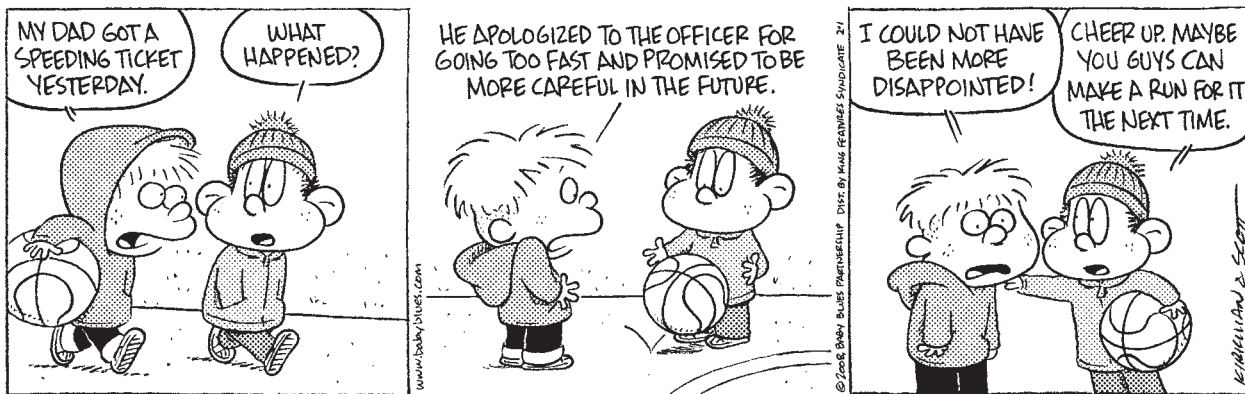
Blondie



Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

			6					
		4		7	2			
		8				4	6	
	1			9				7
	6						1	
9				2			8	
	5	3				9		
			8	1		6		
					5			

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/01

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

1	3	4	6	8	2	9	7	5
7	6	5	3	1	9	2	4	8
8	2	9	7	5	4	6	1	3
5	7	8	1	9	6	3	2	4
6	1	2	4	3	8	5	9	7
4	9	3	5	2	7	1	8	6
3	4	6	9	7	1	8	5	2
9	8	7	2	6	5	4	3	1
2	5	1	8	4	3	7	6	9

ACROSS

- 1 Windowsill, e.g.
- 6 Meal in the sty
- 10 Geography book diagrams
- 14 Just right
- 15 Conceal
- 16 Cain's brother
- 17 Staring
- 18 Disassemble
- 19 Old stringed instrument
- 20 To the point
- 22 ___ out; got rid of gradually
- 24 Suitcases
- 25 Athletes
- 26 Cactus-derived hallucinogen
- 29 Goes off course
- 30 Pennsylvania or 5th: abbr.
- 31 Stopped
- 33 Prince William's mum
- 37 Juicy fruit
- 39 Caesar's robes
- 41 Chopping tools
- 42 Blaze residue
- 44 Storm and Gordon
- 46 Drink like a dog
- 47 Forest home
- 49 Ocean ___; cruise ships
- 51 Exhaustion
- 54 Escape
- 55 Diminished
- 56 Personal code to access a computer site
- 60 Comic actress Imogene ___
- 61 Snatch
- 63 Giggler's sound
- 64 "See no ___", hear no ___
- 65 ___ Grey tea
- 66 Of Japan or China
- 67 Collections
- 68 Little child
- 69 Tale

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14					15					16		
17					18					19		
20					21			22	23			
			24				25					
26	27	28				29						
30			31	32			33	34	35	36		
37			38	39			40	41				
42			43	44			45	46				
			47	48			49	50				
51	52	53				54						
55					56				57	58	59	
60				61	62			63				
64				65				66				
67				68				69				

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/1/13

3 Pass out cards

- 4 Backyard pavilion
- 5 Raise
- 6 Gives the cold shoulder to
- 7 Dryer residue
- 8 Bizarre
- 9 Magazine title
- 10 Kuala Lumpur's nation
- 11 Mistreat
- 12 Nursery rhyme pumpkin eater
- 13 Toboggans
- 21 Secret ___; spy
- 23 Difficult
- 25 Ride a bike
- 26 One of the Three Bears
- 27 12/24 & 12/31
- 28 Slangy reply
- 29 Meat shunner
- 32 Motherless calf
- 34 Wheel rod
- 35 Close by
- 36 Biting snakes
- 38 Piano student performances
- 40 Peddles

Thursday's Puzzle Solved

TUTU	SMOKY	SCAR
APES	HOWIE	LOBO
TONE	EVENTUALLY	
AND PAID	BYTES	
ELATE	JOE	
AFRESH	COARSE	
SOFAS	FLOAT TIC	
IRON	BRIAN	MADE
ADO	GREET	DATED
STARRED	SATIRE	
RAW	MINES	
SHEEP	TOGA	TWO
CONNECTION	VIED	
ALDA	BELLE	ICED
MESS	SALAD	ASKS

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- 43 Wise man
- 45 Afternoon naps
- 48 Rent-a-car company
- 50 Most modern
- 51 Pusses
- 52 Over
- 53 Understood, though not said
- 54 Fairy tale
- 56 Recreational area
- 57 Toledo's state
- 58 Raise, as kids
- 59 Refuse to admit
- 62 Sunbeam

Classifieds

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\$1,100 per week sleeps 4
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198397

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or barry 360 546 0788

198526

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US 336-953-4241

198398

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198362

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\$4,200.00 per week
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Sacrificial skull mound in Mexico puzzles experts

MARK STEVENSON

The Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Archaeologists say they have turned up about 150 skulls of human sacrifice victims in a field in central Mexico, one of the first times that such a large accumulation of severed heads has been found outside of a major pyramid or temple complex in Mexico.

Experts are puzzled by the unexpected find of such a large number of skulls at what appears to have been a small, unremarkable shrine. The heads were carefully deposited in rows or in small mounds, mostly facing east toward the rising sun, sometime between 660 and 860 A.D., a period when the nearby city-state of Teotihuacan had already declined but the Aztec empire, founded in 1325, was still centuries in the future.

Georgia State University archaeologist Christopher Morehart, who found the skulls last year in Xaltocan, a farming village just north of Mexico City, said that between 150 and 200 adult skulls or their equivalent in bone parts have been excavated so far from fields that stand on a former lake bed.

Experts weren't expecting to find anything of this kind in the flat, undistinguished pasture land and corn fields. The site is near, but not immediately adja-



In this June 20, 2012 image courtesy of Christopher T. Morehart released on Jan. 31, 2013, archaeologists work at the site where skulls were found in a field in Xaltocan, near the Teotihuacan pyramids in central Mexico.

cent to, Teotihuacan, one of the biggest pre-Hispanic cities. It reached its height between 100 B.C. and A.D. 750 and was abandoned by the time the Aztecs arrived in the area in the 1300s.

Morehart was conducting a study of ancient agricultural patterns and human landscape uses in the northern part of the Mexico Valley in 2007, when during a walking survey of the site he started noticing looters' pits that had turned up human bones.

A subsequent season of excavations in 2012 turned up dozens more skulls. The results of the 2007 dig were just published in the academic journal *Latin American Antiquity*.

While the Teotihuacan culture and the Aztecs were known to practice human sacrifice, and remains of hundreds of victims have been found in their pyramids or other large structures, the Xaltocan mound "is like a bump in the landscape that you could really easily walk over and not know you're standing on it," Morehart said.

"The interesting question is, why are we seeing this kind of sacrificial act that we often associate with something like Teotihuacan or a big center. Why do we see this ... in a place that's not associated with these cities?"

Physical anthropologist Abigail Meza Penaloza of the Institute of Anthropology at Mexico's National University said her team was still cleaning and assembling the skulls, but have a confirmed count of about 130 skulls so far, all of which appear to be of adult males. Meza Penaloza said it was the first find of its kind, both because of the location

— a small, artificial mound built in the middle of an agricultural field — and the kind of decapitations carried out there. She said mass sacrifices had been documented at temple inaugurations of temple closings, but not in the middle of fields.

She said it was also unusual in that the skulls appear to come from a varied population, including people who practiced cranial deformation and others who did not, as opposed to more homogenous groups of sacrifice victims found in the past.

The skulls were also found with a shorter length of vertebrae attached to the skulls than is the case of other such finds, suggesting the decapitation cut was made closer to the base of the skull.

Still other strange details emerged: Morehart said some of the skulls were found with finger bones inserted into the eye sockets. "It was common enough that it was intentionally placed there in the eye socket," Morehart said, though the ritual significance of that remains unclear.

Arizona State University Dr. Michael E. Smith, who was

not involved in the project, said "this is certainly an impressive and very puzzling find," adding, "I am not aware of any other finds of mass burials or mass sacrifices outside of major settlements."

The key to the placement might be the natural springs that provided fresh, clean water in an area dominated by shallow, brackish lakes. The springs existed for centuries until they were covered and tapped by pipes around the 1950s. The ancient inhabitants of Xaltocan apparently used those springs to water lakebed farm plots. Carvings associated with the water-god Tlaloc and corn and chile plants were found at the excavation site, suggesting it may have been an agricultural shrine.

There were also indications that the site remained a ceremonial spot for centuries after the human sacrifices ended, and perhaps is still used for that purpose. Morehart said researchers found a plastic bag containing a black candle, an egg, and paper streamers wrapped around photographs of people at the site, what one local worker suggested was a form of witchcraft.

"They were attracted to this spot for some reason, and even in the colonial period people came back and did rituals there, even after the Spanish came," Morehart noted. "The spot has been integrated into something religiously significant across several centuries. It's amazing."

Smith said it is possible that, as archaeologists start excavating more ancient farm sites, they might discover more evidence of large-scale rural sacrifices. "Very few rural areas or rural shrines have ever been located, so it is hard to say that this site represents an unusual find. It certainly is unusual for being the first such feature excavated by archaeologists, but it is possible that such shrines were more common in ancient times; we simply have no idea." □

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In this Oct. 26, 2010 file photo, director Tony Scott arrives at the premiere of "Unstoppable" in Los Angeles

Associated Press

Tony Scott's agents seek \$1M in unpaid fees

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Tony Scott's agents are seeking \$1 million in fees they say they are owed for the deceased director's work on films such as "Unstoppable" and "Man on Fire."

The Creative Artists Agency filed a creditor's claim against the director's estate on Monday. Scott died after leaping from a Los Angeles bridge in August.

The filing seeks a 10 percent share of Scott's earnings to direct "The Taking of Pelham 123," "Unstoppable," and "Deja Vu." CAA is also seeking residual payments for "Man on Fire," which Scott directed for \$7 million plus a \$1 million producing fee.

The filings state "Deja Vu" earned Scott \$10 million, and he received a \$9.5 million salary for the "Pelham 123" remake.

An attorney for Scott's estate declined comment through a secretary. □

Frank Ocean, Maroon 5, Keys to perform at Grammys

NEW YORK (AP) — All five nominees for album of the year at this year's Grammys will perform at the awards show Feb. 10.

The Recording Academy announced Thursday that R&B singer Frank Ocean will join Mumford & Sons, The Black Keys, Jack White and fun. at the Grammys, to take place live from Los Angeles.

Alicia Keys and Maroon 5 will join forces for a special performance. Presenters include Katy Perry, Keith Urban, Carly Rae Jepsen, Faith Hill and Tim McGraw.

Six acts tie for the most nominations with six each, including Ocean, The Black Keys' Dan Auerbach, Kanye West, Jay-Z, fun. and Mumford & Sons. □



In this Tuesday, Nov. 13, 2012 file photo, Frank Ocean attends the GQ "Men Of The Year" party at the Chateau Marmont, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

Beyonce just 1 of many stars at Super Bowl weekend



Beyoncé arrives for a news conference Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013, in New Orleans. Beyoncé is scheduled to perform during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl XLVII football game on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2013.

Associated Press

STACEY PLAISANCE Associated Press

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The entertainment leading up to the Super Bowl football championship is so A-list, Beyonce may not even have the most anticipated performance.

Justin Timberlake is due to give his first major musical performance in four years. Stevie Wonder is performing at an outdoor concert. Ceelo Green is reuniting with his old hip-hop clique, Goodie Mob, and Rascal Flatts is teaming up with Journey. Those represent only a fraction of the all-star events.

Lil Wayne is throwing a major bash. Jay-Z is holding court at another event the evening before his wife, Beyonce, performs at halftime of the game, and Jamie Foxx is due to give a private concert — and that's just the lineup for Saturday. Santigold, Solange and producer/DJ Diplo will perform at two parties during the weekend.

"I've never seen anything like this," said Gary Solomon Jr., co-founder of Solomon Group, the local company hired to help set up the stages and lighting for the outdoor concerts and broadcasting areas.

Perhaps the most hotly an-

ticipated event features Timberlake. He will perform during an invitation-only concert that will also feature Ahmir "Questlove" Thompson of The Roots as DJ. Questlove is a friend of Timberlake's who served as DJ at the pop star's wedding to Jessica Biel in October. Timberlake is expected to perform his new single, "Suit & Tie," which features Jay-Z, and other tracks from his upcoming album, "The 20/20 Experience." "The album is incredible," Questlove said. "I'm a huge supporter, and I'm there to make sure the audience has a good time."

"Mum's the word," Questlove said. "All that is under wraps."

Stevie Wonder is also performing Saturday night. The Rock and Roll Hall of Fame legend is headlining an outdoor concert. Rising guitarist Gary Clark Jr. is also scheduled to perform. Besides the Timberlake concert, Questlove is performing with The Roots at three Super Bowl parties.

OneRepublic and Matchbox Twenty will perform as part of the pregame show. As will "American Idol" alum Jennifer Hudson, who will join the chorus from Sandy Hook Elementary School to sing "America

the Beautiful" before the 49ers and Ravens take the field, the NFL said.

The chorus features 26 children from Sandy Hook Elementary in Newtown, Connecticut, where 20 first-graders and six adults were killed in a Dec. 14 shooting rampage. The performance will be part of CBS's pre-game show and will be broadcast live. Alicia Keys will sing the national anthem. Much of the entertainment kicks off Friday. VH1 is hosting a concert headlined by rock band Train, while Grammy-winning R&B singer Fantasia leads a pack of Christian and gospel singers for the NFL's Super Bowl Gospel Celebration. Rapper Pitbull has two scheduled appearances this weekend: On Friday night, he's performing at an invitation-only party by Rolling Stone with rapper Flo Rida and Nick Cannon. On Saturday, he performs for the general public a star-studded flag football match that will include Snoop Dogg, Neil Patrick Harris, Chace Crawford, Josh Hutcherson and former NFL players Deion Sanders and Warren Moon. Also Saturday, CMT is hosting a "Crossroads" concert with headliners Journey and Rascal Flatts. □

Underdog 'Argo' continues on charmed Oscar path

DAVID GERMAIN

AP Movie Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Some years, Academy Awards voters just want to feel right about themselves, their industry, their country. And maybe honor one of their own who hasn't always shared in the love of his peers.

That could explain why Ben Affleck's "Argo" has gone from best-picture longshot to Oscar favorite over such competitors as Steven Spielberg's stately but talky Civil War portrait "Lincoln" or Kathryn Bigelow's brilliant yet contentious CIA thriller "Zero Dark Thirty."

"Argo" is a feel-good thrill ride that's patriotic enough to warrant a good "USA! USA!" chant as the credits roll. It's all about how Hollywood helped save some lives. And a best-picture win could be viewed as righting a wrong after Affleck inexplicably missed out on a best-director nomination.

"There's a surge to embrace Ben Affleck in the aftermath of his Oscar snub. It seems like such an outrage that his film is benefiting from it as a result," said Tom O'Neil, who runs the awards website GoldDerby.com. "It really is a pro-'Argo' movement more than it is a kind of shrug off of 'Lincoln' or a disparagement of 'Zero Dark Thirty.' Hollywood is rallying around one of their wounded own."

"Argo" is one of three true-life best-picture nominees steeped in different eras of U.S. history. Spielberg's



This undated publicity film image released by Warner Bros. Pictures shows Bryan Cranston, left, as Jack O'Donnell and Ben Affleck as Tony Mendez in "Argo," a rescue thriller about the 1979 Iranian hostage crisis. A best-picture win at the upcoming Oscars could be viewed as righting a wrong after Affleck inexplicably missed out on a best-director nomination.

Associated Press

"Lincoln," which leads the Oscars with 12 nominations and looked like the front-runner until "Argo" began winning top honors at other awards shows, is a towering study of Abraham Lincoln as he maneuvers to end the war and pass the 13th Amendment abolishing slavery. "Argo" tells of a little-known victory amid an otherwise enervating chapter in American foreign affairs during the Iran hostage crisis. Bigelow's "Zero Dark Thirty" is a dark story of this last dark decade as the CIA builds leads that result in the Navy SEALs raid that killed Osama bin Laden.

In their way, all three are stories of American triumph, but told with wildly divergent tones. "Lincoln" is a saga of hope amid

national tragedy, meticulously researched but a little emotionally remote because of its attention to Washington deal-making, 1860s-style. "Zero Dark Thirty" is a bleak tale of uncertain patriotism, also meticulously researched but at times more than a little emotionally repugnant because of the questionable means it depicts in a righteous cause.

"Argo" is the one that turns triumph into an end-zone dance. Affleck has taken knocks in the past over his acting, but in only his third film as director, he shows complete mastery of populist movie-making. He gives viewers great drama, great laughs, agonizing tension and an exultant finale, all while playing loose with the facts in a way au-

diences can forgive in the name of a terrific piece of entertainment. "When you look at the small group of movies that are really in contention to win, 'Argo' is the most exciting choice in two ways," said Dave Karger, chief correspondent for movie-ticket seller Fandango.com. "It's the most exciting of the movies, and it would be the most exciting winner because of its now underdog feeling that it has by not getting that directing nomination. 'Argo' is managing that near-impossible thing. It's winning everything, yet it still feels like the underdog."

Much like the story Affleck tells. As Iranian militants stormed the U.S. embassy, where they held 52 people hostage for 444 days, six Americans escaped and

took refuge with Canadian diplomats. CIA rescue specialist Tony Mendez, played by Affleck, organized a daring plot to get them out disguised as crew members of a fake sci-fi movie scouting locations in Iran.

Their unlikely escape by an outrageous scheme is a ray-of-sunshine footnote in the hostage story, a side story obscure enough that filmmakers could tweak it for all it's worth in a way that would never work with such well-known narratives as Lincoln's final days or the bin Laden raid.

That white-knuckle takeoff at the Tehran airport, with Iranian assault teams racing behind the jet down the runway? Never happened. In Mendez's book "Argo: How the CIA and Hollywood Pulled Off the Most Audacious Rescue in History," the six Americans' passage through the Tehran airport and onto the plane was uneventful. The takeoff and two-hour flight out of Iranian airspace is told in just four sentences.

Much like the escape, "Argo" is Hollywood audacity at its best, taking the gist of a true story and dressing it up into a fun night out. Meantime, the makers of "Lincoln" and "Zero Dark Thirty" may have tried to be too genuine. Based partly on historian Doris Kearns Goodwin's "Team of Rivals: The Political Genius of Abraham Lincoln," Spielberg's film is enormously entertaining yet professorial at times. □



Hasty Pudding Woman of the Year, actress Marion Cotillard, of France, holds the award during a news conference, at Harvard University, in Cambridge, Mass., Thursday, Jan. 31, 2013.

Associated Press

Harvard drama troupe honors Marion Cotillard

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts (AP) — Academy Award-winning actress Marion Cotillard has taken home the pudding pot after being honored as woman of the year by Harvard's Hasty Pudding Theatricals. Cotillard smiled, waved and caught a teddy bear from the crowd during a parade through Cam-

bridge's Harvard Square on Thursday.

The procession was followed by a roast of the 37-year-old French actress at Hasty Pudding headquarters, during which Cotillard sang a song from "La Vie En Rose." Cotillard won a best actress Oscar for her portrayal of famed French singer Edith Piaf in that

2007 film.

Cotillard has appeared more recently in "Inception" and "The Dark Knight Rises."

Claire Danes was the woman of the year in 2012.

The awards are presented annually to performers who have made a lasting and impressive contribution to entertainment. □

Makers, Takers, Fakers



PAUL KRUGMAN
© 2013 New York Times

Republicans have a problem. For years they could shout down any attempt to point out the extent to which their policies favored the elite over the poor and the middle class; all they had to do was yell "Class warfare!" and Democrats scurried away. In the 2012 election, however, that didn't work: The picture of the GOP as the party of sneering plutocrats stuck, even as Democrats became more openly populist than they have been in decades.

As a result, prominent Republicans have begun acknowledging that their party needs to improve its image. But here's the thing: Their proposals for a make-over all involve changing the sales pitch rather than the product. When it comes to substance, the GOP is more committed than ever to policies that take from most Americans and give to a wealthy handful.

Consider, as a case in point, how a widely reported recent speech by Bobby Jindal the governor of Louisiana, compares with his actual policies.

Jindal posed the problem in a way that would, I believe, have been unthinkable for a leading Republican even a year ago. "We must not," he declared, "be the party that simply protects the well off so they can keep their toys. We have to be the party that shows all Americans how they can thrive." After a campaign in which Mitt Romney denounced any attempt to talk about class divisions as an "attack on success," this represents a major rhetorical shift.

But Jindal didn't offer any suggestions about how Republicans might demonstrate that they aren't just about letting the rich keep their toys, other than claiming even more loudly that their policies are good for everyone.

Meanwhile, back in Louisiana, Jindal is pushing a plan to eliminate the state's income tax, which falls most heavily on the affluent, and make up for the lost revenue by raising sales taxes, which fall much more heavily on the poor and the middle class. The result would be big gains for the top 1 percent, substantial losses for the bottom 60 percent. Similar plans are being pushed by a number of other Republican governors as well.

Like the new acknowledgment that the perception of being the party of the rich is a problem,

this represents a departure for the GOP — but in the opposite direction. In the past, Republicans would justify tax cuts for the rich either by claiming that they would pay for themselves or by claiming that they could make up for lost revenue by cutting wasteful spending. But what we're seeing now is open, explicit reverse Robin Hoodism: taking from ordinary families and giving to the rich. That is, even as Republicans look for a way to sound more sympathetic and less extreme, their actual policies are taking another sharp right turn.

Why is this happening? In particular, why is it happening now, just after an election in which the GOP paid a price for its anti-populist stand?

Well, I don't have a full answer, but I think it's important to understand the extent to which leading Republicans live in an intellectual bubble. They get their news from Fox and other captive media, they get their policy analysis from billionaire-financed right-wing think tanks, and they're often blissfully unaware both of contrary evidence and of how their positions sound to outsiders.

So when Romney made his infamous "47 percent" remarks, he wasn't, in his own mind, saying anything outrageous or even controversial. He was just repeating a view that has become increasingly dominant inside the right-wing bubble, namely that a large and ever-growing proportion of Americans won't take responsibility for their own lives and are mooching off the hard-working wealthy. Rising unemployment claims demonstrate laziness, not lack of jobs; rising disability claims represent malingering, not the real health problems of an aging workforce.

And given that worldview, Republicans see it as entirely appropriate to cut taxes on the rich while making everyone else pay more.

Now, national politicians learned last year that this kind of talk plays badly with the public, so they're trying to obscure their positions. Paul Ryan, for example, has lately made a transparently dishonest attempt to claim that when he spoke about "takers" living off the efforts of the "makers" — at one point he assigned 60 percent of Americans to the taker category — he wasn't talking about people receiving Social Security and Medicare. (He was.)

But in deep red states like Louisiana or Kansas, Republicans are much freer to act on their beliefs — which means moving strongly to comfort the comfortable while afflicting the afflicted.

Which brings me back to Jindal, who declared in his speech that "we are a populist party." No, you aren't. You're a party that holds a large proportion of Americans in contempt. And the public may have figured that out. □



And In Last Week's Gun News ...



JOE NOCERA
© 2013 New York Times
Monday, Jan. 21:

Eleaquin Temblador had plans. He was working to earn his high school diploma and wanted to join the U.S. Marine Corps and marry his girlfriend. ... Instead, family members are planning Temblador's funeral. For reasons no one can explain, gunmen in a light-colored, older-model vehicle gunned down the 18-year-old ... as he rode his bicycle home from his girlfriend's house. — Dailybreeze.com, Los Angeles

Relatives of a teen who was shot while playing basketball at a local park said the 16-year-old is now paralyzed from the waist down. ... Police said the shooter, a 17-year-old boy, had a gun stuck in his waistband. While he was playing basketball, someone bumped into him and the gun went off. ... — Click Orlando.com

Tuesday, Jan. 22:
A Baton Rouge man who authorities said was playing with a gun was booked ... in the accidental shooting of his 2-year-old brother. ... (The man's uncle) said the teen had armed himself due to "environmental pressure" from neighborhood friends. — The Advocate, Baton Rouge, La.

The New Mexico teenager who used an assault rifle to kill his mother, father and younger siblings told police he hoped

to shoot up a Wal-Mart after the family rampage and cause "mass destruction." ... Nehemiah Griego, the 15-year-old son of an Albuquerque pastor ... "stated he wanted to shoot people at random and eventually be killed while exchanging gunfire with law enforcement," the (police) report said.

— ABC News

Wednesday, Jan. 23:

Kansas City police arrested a 16-year-old Ruskin High School student accused of shooting at a school bus after the driver refused to allow him to board on Wednesday. — The Kansas City Star

A 4-year-old boy has died after being shot in the head Wednesday. ... The deputy (sheriff) located the child's body inside of a Ford Taurus.

There was a bullet hole in the roof of the car. ... "Jamarus loved Batman, Spider-Man and football and was looking forward to starting kindergarten," (his mother) said.

— Newsnet5.com, Akron, Ohio

Thursday, Jan. 24:

The estranged husband of a woman found dead in her Madison apartment Thursday was found dead in his home ... of an apparent self-inflicted gunshot wound. ... "We can't really believe it; I mean, these things happen on TV, they don't happen to us," (her stepmother) said. "We're middle class, normal Americans, and she was a nice girl."

— WISC-TV, Madison, Wis.

Police said an 11-year-old girl is in critical condition after being shot in the face by her father in a New Jersey home on Thursday night. Investigators said 27-year-old Byaer Johnson apparently entered the home to visit his young daughter. ... He was asked to leave, then picked up a handgun and shot his daughter.

— CBS News

Friday, Jan. 25:

An Oakland police officer was shot and wounded Friday evening, the second officer in the city to be injured by gunfire this week. ... The shooting happened after a man in a car ran a stop sign, crashed into another car ... and ran off. Shortly thereafter, an uncle and his nephew reported that they were shot a block away by a man who tried to steal the uncle's bicycle.

— SFGate.com

A man has been charged with murder for fatally shooting his brother during a "domestic" dispute outside a South Side Englewood home Friday afternoon. ... — Chicago.CBSlocal.com

Saturday, Jan. 26:

A party in Salem that spilled outdoors ended in drive-by gunfire that hit at least two people and riddled a car and nearby homes. ...

— KOINlocal6, Salem, Ore.

A 55-year-old man has been released from custody after allegedly shooting and killing his own dog. Police say Gordon Lagstrom was drunk Saturday night when he pulled a .38-caliber handgun and shot to death his 4-year-old Australian terrier, Lena.

— Boston.CBSlocal.com

The city broke a nine-day murder-free streak last night when a man was found dead in the basement of a Queens apartment complex, police said. The 20-year-old victim, whose name was not released, had been shot in the head.

— New York Post

Among those killed Saturday was a 34-year-old man whose mother had already lost her three other children to shootings. Police say Ronnie Chambers, who was his mother's youngest child, was shot in the head while sitting in a car. Police say two separate double-homicide shootings also occurred Saturday about 12 hours apart. ... Chicago's homicide count eclipsed 500 last year for the first time since 2008. □

Short ribs add depth to your playing field!

MELISSA CLARK
© The New York Times

Technically, there is no reason one could not make Super Bowl food at other times during the year. A Buffalo wing without the pigskin flying would taste just as spicy.

Somehow that would seem wrong, though, like baking a pumpkin pie in July. There is a time and a place for all culinary delights, and it is up to the cook to seize the moment.

Thus, I offer a recipe for nachos.

But these aren't just any nachos. These are topped with a mountain of soft, spicy, chili-braised short ribs; valleys of molten cheese; hillocks of guacamole; rivers of salsa; and creamy pools of sour cream. They are as over-the-top as the halftime show.

The short ribs make this dish substantial enough to be a main course for a small group, a meal that football watchers can eat with their hands without taking their eyes off the ball.

I've been making short rib chili for years, ever since I first tasted a version my friend Nick makes. This is the first time I've ever heaped it on a tray of nachos, and it won't be the last.

Short rib chili is heartier and beefier than chili made with ground meat and beans, and this one has a deep flavor imbued with spices and tomatoes. And the bones add marrow to the sauce, making it especially velvety and rich even after you skim the fat off the top.

Nick's chili recipe is elaborate, calling for both fresh and dried whole chile peppers. I streamlined it by substituting a combination of jalapenos or serranos and good quality chile powder. And by good quality I mean chile powder spelled with an "e," ground from pure dried chilies, without the dehydrated garlic and dried oregano you sometimes find in supermarket chili powders. I usually use New Mexico chili powder, which is well

balanced and just fiery enough.

If you skipped the chips and guacamole and salsa and cream and served the chili all by itself, it would still taste terrific. But it's nachos for the win.

SHORT RIB CHILI NACHOS

Time: 3 hours

Yield: 8 to 12 servings

4 pounds bone-in beef short ribs, patted dry

5 teaspoons coarse kosher salt, more to taste

1 1/2 teaspoons black pepper

5 garlic cloves, smashed and peeled

2 jalapeno or serrano peppers, halved lengthwise, seeded if desired

1 onion, peeled and quartered lengthwise

1 (28-ounce) can chopped tomatoes

1/2 cup coarsely chopped cilantro stems, and 1/4 cup chopped leaves

2 teaspoons dried oregano

2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil

1 to 2 tablespoons chili powder, to taste

2 teaspoons ground cumin

2 teaspoons ground coriander

1 tablespoon tomato paste

1 (12-ounce) bottle Mexican lager, like Negra Modelo



The short ribs in these sublimely delicious nachos make this dish substantial enough to be a main course for a small group, a meal that football watchers can eat with their hands without taking their eyes off the ball!

(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)



Nachos with chile-braised short ribs, cheese, guacamole, salsa and sour cream. Super Bowl fans and foodies join forces each year to create a total experience for the big game: try this recipe at your Bowl Party!

(Andrew Scrivani/The New York Times)

1 (13-ounce) package corn tortilla chips

8 ounces white Cheddar cheese, grated (2 cups)

4 avocados, peeled, pitted and diced

Juice of 1 lime

1 1/2 cups store-bought fresh salsa, preferably salsa verde

1 cup Mexican cream or sour cream

Hot sauce, optional

1. Heat oven to 325 degrees. Season short ribs with 3 teaspoons salt and the black pepper. Let rest while you prepare sauce.

2. Place a large, dry Dutch oven over high heat. Add

garlic, peppers and onion to the dry pan. Cook, turning occasionally, until lightly charred all over, about 10 minutes.

3. Transfer garlic, peppers and onion to a blender. Add tomatoes with juice, cilantro stems, oregano and 1 teaspoon salt. Puree until smooth.

4. Return Dutch oven to medium-high heat. Add olive oil. Sear short ribs in batches, until well browned all over, about 20 minutes. Transfer browned ribs to a bowl.

5. Stir chili powder, cumin and coriander into pot and

cook until fragrant, about 30 seconds. Stir in tomato paste and cook until it begins to caramelize, 1 to 2 minutes. Stir in tomato-pepper puree and beer and bring to a simmer. Return short ribs to pot, cover and transfer to oven. Bake for 1 1/2 hours, then uncover pot, give meat a stir, and continue baking until ribs are fork tender and falling off bone, 30 to 45 minutes longer, for a total cooking time of 2 to 2 1/4 hours. (If you have time, let short ribs mixture cool, refrigerate overnight, then remove fat before proceeding.)

6. Once ribs are cool enough to handle, remove from pot, reserving sauce. Shred meat and discard bones and gristle. If sauce seems thin, simmer on stove until it thickens enough to coat a wooden spoon. Return meat to pot.

7. Heat broiler. Spread tortilla chips on a rimmed baking sheet. Top evenly with meat and sauce. Sprinkle cheese over the top. Broil until hot and cheese is melted, 1 to 2 minutes.

8. In a small bowl, mash together avocados, lime juice and 1 teaspoon salt, or to taste.

9. Dollop avocado, salsa and sour cream over hot nachos and drizzle with hot sauce if desired. Scatter the chopped cilantro leaves over top. □